Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, 185

I am very Respectfully,
A. K. Sinderman.

I am very Respectfull
A. K. Sinderman

I have the honor to be
With great respect
Your faithful Servant

I have the honor to be
With great respect
Your faithful Servant

United States Assay Office.

New York, Oct. 26, 1854.

Sir,

I transmit herewith my Estimates of the expenses of this Office for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1856, and of the Appropriations required to be asked. I submit also the grounds upon which these estimates are based.

Not having a former experience to guide me, I have found it difficult to prepare estimates for a period so far in the future. They are submitted with the request that if, upon examination, you deem any correction necessary, you will apprise me.

Very respectfully,
your obt. Servt.
Sam F. Butterworth
Supt.

Col. J.R. Snowden,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia.

United States Assay Office

New York, Oct. 26, 1864.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th, inclosing Transfer draft No. 1225 on this office, in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint, for $500,000. As the object of this transfer is to replace Bullion Fund the amount transferred this office on Bond Bank, there is no occasion for suggesting, approved by the Department, to make the draft payable in specie bullion so far as to avoid the expense of an additional transfer between this office and the Mint. It is however, some difficulties would arise on our tenderly paying the draft either in whole or in part, in specie bullion, and as the object you have in view may be equally effected in another manner, I venture to suggest a slight modification of your instructions.

I propose, in accordance with my understanding of the law, and with dispatch

of the Department already expressed, that all the bullion brought to this Office, "intended by the depositor to be converted into coin", should, after melting and assay, be from time to time sent to the Mint, by such conveyance as the Secretary of the Treasury shall indicate, and that the same shall be received by the Mint as a deposit in the name of the Treasurer of this Office, the net proceeds being returned to him in coin. In this way the necessity for opening any account between the Mint & this Office would be obviated, and all complication as to the adjustment of Charges would be avoided. In the calculation of value to determine the amount payable to the depositor the legal deductions will be made. But inasmuch as the bullion is to be operated upon by the Mint it is manifest that these deductions belong to you and not to us. Certainly the most convenient way to place them in your hands will be to allow you to retain them from the proceeds of the deposit precisely as in the case of other depositors. On a careful consideration of all the points involved, both as to practical convenience & in the matter of account, I am satisfied that the method I propose is the simplest & best.

If you coincide with me in this opinion you will be prepared for my suggestion as to mode of paying the present draft of $50,000.

It is that the imported bullion now on hand be sent to the Mint, not in repayment on account of that draft, but as a deposit, and that subsequent parcels of bullion be transmitted to you on the same way. The proceeds of these deposits we propose to leave in your hands until the draft is satisfied. This arrangement will save the expense of transporting that amount of coin from the Mint to the Assay Office & also the expense of sending the same amount from this Office in payment of the draft, which is taken up in the object of the arrangement proposed by you. The literal payment of the draft in imported bullion would involve the necessity of our computing its net value for the Mint, & also of making annotations & explanatory entries in our books.

If the arrangement proposed for the general transmission of bullion deposited at this Office for coinage meets your approval, I have to request that you will procure from the Department a general authority addressed to our Treasurer as to the mode of transmitting it. I do not see that any thing else is necessary, as both the law

and the instructions of the Department already received make such transfers of funds the duty of the Treasurer of this office. It is reasonable however that he should be protected by authority of the Department in selecting the mode of transmission.

I may remark that of the claims of the Currency quarter, that amount of the deposits for Coinage shall not have reached $500,000 it will be necessary for me to transmit Bank Balances that may remain unexpended on the drafts, in coin.

If, however, it shall be deemed objectionable to prolong the payment of the drafts until the deposits for coinage reach the amount, I respectfully suggest that the whole amount be transmitted by express, and that the transmission of bullion be a distinct transaction in the manner I have proposed.

Very respectfully
Your obedient Servt
Sam. F. Butterworth
Supt.

Col. J. R. Snowden
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

Tom.

S. F. Butterworth Esq
Supt Assay Office
N York

As to payment of draft for $10,000 in
bullion, desires me
to obtain the sanction
of the Department
as the Treas. delivers
only it for transportation
to Boston here

Oct. 25, 1854

Philadelphia Oct 25th 1854

Mint of U.S.

MERCHANTS,
Manufacturers, Banks,
INSURANCE COMPANIES, &c.
Supplied with every article used in the
COUNTING HOUSE.

Bought of **WM. MANN,**
Counting House Stationer,
No. 34 South Third Street.

2 doz. Bristol Boards	1.25	2 50

U. S. Assay Office, Treasurer's Department.

New-York, Oct 25th 1854

Daniel Sturgeon Esq.
Treasurer of the U. S. Mint.

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th instant, and bars, silver dollars, and change amounting to $50.000. in payment of Draft No 1224. also 80 bars, amounting to $243,848.26. on account of Draft No 1223.

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servant,
Jno. J. Cisco
Treasurer,

October 26th 49

Sir,

Herewith I enclose for your examination copies of the estimates for the Mint and its branches and the Assay Office at New York forwarded this day to the Register. Their transmission has been delayed in consequence of the nonreceipt of estimates from the California Branch, and a delay in receiving these from the Assay Office. I have not yet received any estimates nor grounds of estimates from San Francisco, nor the grounds of the estimates from the Assay Office: But I have endeavored to supply the former from the best information in my power. I expect to receive the estimates by the next mail. When received they will be transmitted to the Register, together with the grounds of estimates, (every day expected) from the Assay Office, and be the subject of a communication to yourself.

I experience great difficulty and embarrassment in preparing these estimates as we cannot anticipate how the business for the balance of this fiscal year and the year ending in June 1850, may be divided between the several Mints and the Assay Office. The estimates which I presented on the 29th October 1849, although nearly accurate as to the aggregate amount of bullion received, by it has been operated

appropriations from the Treasury.

The estimates known have been prepared with great care and may be regarded as sufficiently accurate for the purpose intended, but in view of the difficulties that have lately brought to your notice - I suggest for your consideration the propriety of regarding the appropriations in question as a general appropriation for the support of these several institutions, and that authority be given to the Treasury Department to transfer them from one to another as occasion may require. A provision something like the following inserted in that part of the appropriation bill which relates to the Mints would meet the object in view:

"These several appropriations for the Mints and the Assay Office, may at the option of the Secretary of the Treasury be regarded as general appropriations for their support, and may be transferred by his authority from one institution to another as the demands of the public service may require."

When I receive the estimates from San Francisco and the grounds of the estimates from New York I may have occasion to advert to this subject again. I may add that I would prefer having had those papers before me in preparing these estimates, but I cannot longer defer their transmission

to the Department.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect
Your faithful Servant

Edwin Roth Snowden
Director

Hon. James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury
Washington City

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, Oct 26. 1854

Sir,

On the receipt from the Department of the draft on your Treasurer for $500,000 payable in Coin, I wrote to the Department that as we did not at present need Coin, I desired that it should be paid in such bullion as you have received for coinage and such other amount of unparted gold, as it might be convenient for your office to send us, after the first arrival from California, the balance to be sent in Coin. ~~The suggestion has been approved; But before sending the draft~~

This suggestion has been approved. I enclose the draft and you will cause it to be paid in the manner indicated and send proceeds ~~[illegible]~~ by Adams & Co's Express. You will send the ~~[illegible]~~ unparted gold first, and await my further instructions as to sending the Coin.

I have to request your early attention to the payment to the Treasurer of the Mint of the ~~pay rolls~~ amount paid the workmen for your office.

I am yours very Respectfully

To S. S. Butterworth
Supt Army Pi
N D

1st Enclose transfer
draft for $10,000
& direct its payment
in bullion
2d payment of
moneys paid
to workmen by
Smith for that
office

Oct 26, 1854

October 30th 4.

Sir,

On the receipt from the Department of the draft on your Treasurer for $500,000 payable in coin, I wrote to the Department that as we did not at present need coin, I advised that it should be paid in such bullion as you have received for coinage, and such other amount of unparted gold after the next arrival from California, as it might be convenient for your office to send us, the balance to be sent in coin

This suggestion has been approved. I enclose the draft and you will cause it to be paid in the manner indicated and send proceeds per Adams & Co Express. You will send the unparted gold first, and await my further instructions as to sending the coin.

I have to request your early attention to the payment to the Treasurer of the Mint of the amount paid the Workmen for your office.

I am, very Respectfully
James Ross Snowden.
Director.

[illegible], Esqr.
Supt. U.S. Assay office N.Y.

October 16 1.

Sir, On the receipt of your letter regarding the proper charge for casting standard bars of silver, I prudential the subject to the Department and proposed to fix the rate of the same at one cent per ounce standard at the Assay Office and this Mint. This proposition has received the sanction of the Department. You will therefore charge at this rate one cent per ounce standard for silver cast into standard bars at your Office.

I am, very respectfully,
Sam. R. Snowden,
Director.

Sam. F. Butterworth, Esqr.
Supt. Assay Office,
N. York.

U. S. Assay Office, Treasurer's Department.

New-York, Oct 21th 1854

Robert Patterson Esq.
Acting Treas.r U.S. Mint.

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th inst. and also by Messrs Adams & Co 70 fine bars, and change amounting to $256.151.74/100, in full payment of Transfer Draft No 1223. The draft in my favor for $2000. in Silver dollars was forwarded yesterday.

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servant.
John J Cisco
Treasurer.

Treasury Department
First Auditor's office
October 26 1854

Wm Dan'l Sturgeon
Treasurer U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

Sir:

In future you will please cause to be entered on the Assayer's Reports the Standard weight and value of Gold Bullion, adding on the reports the value of Silver parted for the depositor and deducting the usual charges, in order to shew the net value of each deposit on the face of the Report — I should be glad if this could be done in your Bullion accounts for the Quarter ending 30th September 1854 —

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
T. J. Lawrence

Auditor

Oct 27, 4

Sir,

I enclose a bill of Walter Cressons for implements furnished the Assay Office which has been presented to me for payment.

I am, Very Respectfully

Director.

Sam. F. Butterworth, Esq.,
Supt. Assay Office,
New York.

Octo 27th 4

Sir,

The grounds of estimate were required to-day, and I will transmit them to the Department. The estimates were sent forward yesterday. I think pre-eminate have been as well prepared as could be done under the circumstances. At best, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, we can only present probabilities.

As we cannot well anticipate how the business hereafter may be divided on the Atlantic sides, and how much may be operated upon on the Pacific, I have suggested to the Secretary, that it seems to me desirable that the appropriations in question should be regarded as general appropriations for the support of those institutions, and that authority, from Congress, should be asked for giving the Secretary of the Treasury power to transfer the appropriations from one institution to another if the public service requires it.

I enclose a bill - properly bagalled at your office - which has been presented for payment here.

and am with great respect
your ob servant
James Ross Snowden
Director.

Sam. W. Butterworth Esq
Supervising Office N. York

Farmers Bank

Hudson Oct 27 1854

To

United States Mint
Philadelphia

I this day forward by Express 1000 dolls old silver for Exchange in halves new coin

Yours truly
A K Holmes Co
pr Bodwell

Recd Oct 31st 54

Mr. Hanson has deposited this silver & tho he examined [illegible]
Recit No of dep. (1202)

H. R. Linderman [illegible]
Dep. Off.

Oct 27th [illegible]4

Sir,

I received this morning the grounds of the estimates for the New York Assay office, and transmit them to-day to the Register. I enclose a copy of them for your examination.

I will reserve any further remarks upon the subject of the estimates for the mint and branches and the Assay office, until I receive a Communication from the Branch at San Francisco.

I have the honor to be
with great respect,
Your obt. servant,

James Ross Snowden
Director.

Hon. James Guthrie,
Sec. of the Treasury,
Washington City.

Total amount

Oct 27th 4

Sir,

Herewith I send you the grounds of the estimates for the New York Assay office, which I received this morning.

I am very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant,

James Ross Snowden
Director.

Hon. F. Bigger
Register of the Treasury
Washington City

Schedule of the Expenses of the U. S. Assay Office at New York, for the fiscal Year ending June 30, 1856.

	Dollars	Dollars
For Salaries of Officers & Clerks:		
Superintendent	3,500	
Treasurer	2,000	
Assayer	2,500	
Melter & Refiner	2,500	
Assistant Assayer	1,500	
Assistant Melter & Refiner	1,500	
Two Clerks at $2000 — 4,000		
One do at 1800 1,800		
Three do at 1500 4,500	10,300	
		24,400
For Wages of Workmen		40,000
For Incidental and Contingent Expenses and Repairs, including fuel and materials and Wastage on Gold and Silver		70,000
		134,400

U. S. Assay Office
New York Oct 26, 1854.

Should Amount to [illegible]

Grounds of the Estimates of the Expenses of the U. States Treasury Office at New-York for the fiscal year ending June 30. 1856

		Dollars	Dollars
1	Salaries of Officers & Clerks		
	The appropriations under this head for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1854 is	12.900	
	Amount paid for Salaries to same date	4.438	
	Available balance		8.462
	The Appropriation for Salaries for the current year is	25.500	
	The aggregate Compensation of Officers and Clerks is at present, per annum $21.500		
	It is probable that some increase of Salaries will be deemed necessary, and also one additional Clerk, equiring say	2.462	23.962
	Available balance		1.538
	Total balance available for year ending June 30. 1856		10.000
	I estimate the Salaries for the year ending June 30. 1856, per Schedule A.	24.400	
	Deducting the above balance	10.000	
	There will be needed to be asked for the sum of		14.400
2	Wages of Workmen		
	The appropriation under this for the Year ending June 30. 1854, is	12.500	
	The Appropriation for the Current Year ending (June 30. 1855) is	30.000	42.500
	The aggregate annual Compensation to Workmen, as at present established is	41.490	
	Deducting for the months of July August and September in the Current year in which the Office was but partially organized, the proportional sum of	7.760	
	The total expenditure for the Current year would amount to		32.820

	Dollars	Dollars
The present rate of Wages gives for year as above stated about	41.500	
It [illegible] prudent to provide for an increase either in the rate of wages and in the number of men to the extent of	7.000	
Making a total for Wages of	48.500	
Deducting the available balance of 1856	8.600	
There will remain to be asked for wages of workmen for the fiscal year ending June 30. 1856 as per Schedule A.		[illegible]
3 Incidental and Contingent Expenses & Repairs		
The appropriation under this head for the year ending June 30. 1854 is	20.000	
Appropriation for the Current year	57.500	[illegible]
There are accounts against this Office for expenses incurred at New York and Philadelphia, in the fitting up and furnishing the establishments which are probably to be provided for out of this fund amounting to about		[illegible]
Leaving for the Current year a balance of		[illegible]
Adding to this the deductions from deposits (assumed at $42.000.000) which are by law available for Ordinary Expenses and estimated at		[illegible]
The total amount available for the Current year will be		[illegible]

As it is quite impossible to determine the expenses of this Office in advance of actual experience I do not deem it prudent to anticipate any surplus of funds at the close of the year. On the contrary the demand upon this fund for the fitting and furnishing the establishments

already allotted to, will probably prove a deficiency of means for the current year of

The Incidental and Contingent expenses of the year ending June 30. 1856 may be estimated at

Dollars	Dollars
30.000	
100.000	
Total	130.000
Deduct from this the deductions from deposits for the same period (Still assuming a basis of $20.000.000)	60.000
There will remain to be asked for the Incidental and Contingent expenses of the year ending June 30. 1856 as per Schedule A.	70.000

U. S. Treasury Office
New York
Oct 30. 1854

United States Assay Office.
New York, Oct 27 1854

Sir

I enclose a communication this day rec'd from Prof Kent the melter & Refiner at this office, I think his suggestions important and worthy of consideration. If you concur with the Prof in his views as to the mode of remedying the evil complained of, I hope you will authorize their adoption.

Respfly
Sam'l. Butterworth
Supt.

Hon'd
Jas. Ross Snowden
Director

P.S. I send you also a letter from Mr Frener which you will find interesting, he certainly excells in his art.

Respy S.B.

28 Oct. 4.

Sir,

The difficulty noticed by Mr. Kent, relative to his possible losses by weighing of fine bars, may be obviated by instructing the weigher, when the weight exceeds a half-hundredth to note it down as a full additional hundredth. Thus if a bar weigh 204.26½ let him call it 204.27. He need not be at pains very accurately to test that the ½ hundredth is reached, since a little experience in watching the turn of the index will be a sufficient guide.

I may add that our Melter & Refiner is not credited with the gross weight of the melts as found when he delivers them in mass, but with the weight as found by aggregating the separate weights subsequently determined. The latter should (if you cause the above system to be pursued) somewhat exceed the former, so that a slight advantage is gained by the Melter & Refiner, & consequently by the Government, in the diminution of wastage.

Very respectfully yours

Jams Ross Snowden.
Director

S. T. Butterworth Esq.
Supt. of Assay Office
New York.

Mr. Boyd will please examine & report his
decision upon this letter.

N. S. Assay Office
Melter & Refiners Department
New York Oct. 27 1854.

Sir,

I respectfully beg leave to present the following subject for your consideration, and to request that you will take such action as you may deem proper, in relation to it.

On the 23rd & 24th inst. the first delivery of fine bars, parted & refined in this department, was made to the Treasurer of this office. The aggregate weight of these bars was 1798.06 ozs. and consequently I claim that the Melter and Refiner should be credited with the full amount of the above weight. In weighing these bars separately by the Treasurer, in order to stamp the value upon each, a small loss in weight occurs which is due to the use of weights the smallest of which is .005 of an oz. This loss in weight amounted in the aggregate to .23 of an oz, which on gold of .995 fineness is worth $4.72. The nett value of the 90 bars fine gold on which the above loss occurs, is $368.611.78, and at the same rate, the loss upon fifty Millions of fine gold would be about $600. per year, which by the present system is not only lost to the Government, but deducted from the Melter & Refiners a/c.

I have been informed that the above deficiency D the Melter & Refiners credit is covered at the mint by the two thousandths which is allowed by Law for wastage. If this is so in fact, I respectfully submit that it is not correct in principle, neither does such practice prevent the loss D Government, because the wastage allowed by Law is evidently intended D cover the loss which actually occurs in the operations of parting and refining, and not D cover that which may occur in another manner, after it has been delivered D the Treasurer.

It is evident that the Melter & Refiner should be in justice, as he is entitled D be by Law, credited with the entire aggregate weight of all the bars delivered D the Treasurer, and if in subsequently weighing these bars seperately a small fraction is lost in each in consequence of the want of weights of sufficient delicacy, this loss is certainly not due D the Melter & Refiner, and consequently it should not be deducted from the aggregate amount of the gold bars delivered by him D the Treasurer.

I beg leave D suggest the following methods, either of which if approved and adopted would prevent the loss D the Government, and also remove the embarassment which now exists between the accounts of the Treasurer and the Melter & Refiner.

First. If the present weights, and only two decimals be continued in use, D authorise the adjustment of the difference on the second decimal in the weight of the seperate bars. But as the second decimal when used for expressing the weight of gold of .995 fineness is worth 20.5 cts this would doubtless prove objectionable in practice.

Second. If the present weights are continued in use (the smallest of which is half a hundredth) D authorise the weight D be called, one hundredth below when less than the half, and one hundredth above when more than the half. By this method the same degree of accuracy will be attained, as now results in the usual practice of the Assayer in stating the fineness of bullion assayed by him.

Third. To authorise the employment of decimal weights smaller than those now used, so as D give the exact weight of each bar D the .001 of an ounce. and also to authorise the use of the third decimal in stamping or registering the weight of each bar. By this method the loss will be reduced D one tenth of that caused by the present practice, and if still greater accuracy should be considered advisable, the small fraction remaining could then be adjusted on the third decimal when the value is reduced D 2.05 cts without sensibly affecting the value of a single bar, or the result of any subsequent weighing by other parties in whose hands the bar may pass.

It may perhaps be thought egotistical in

one who has so recently assumed the responsible duties of this office D attempt D suggest any alteration of a practice which has long been in esse at the Mint, but if in so doing I can be successfull in saving upwards of $600. yearly D the Government, and of relieving the Official account of the Melter & Refiner of an embarrassment which does not properly belong D it, I shall doubtless be justified in laying the above statement before you.

Very Respectfully
Your obt. Servant

Edward H Kent
Melter & Refiner

Saml R. Butterworth Esq
Superintendent
U.S. Assay Office.

October 28th

Sir,

I herewith enclose a schedule, marked B. in reference to the appropriations required for the Assay office at New York for the fiscal year 1855-6. It will be seen, as referred to the grounds of the estimate from that office, that a part of the appropriation for the past and present years for Salaries will be undrawn on the 30th of June next, and may therefore reduce the appropriation to the amount presented in the schedule, if that view should be taken by the Department. I have sent a copy of the paper to the acting Secretary of the Treasury with some explanatory remarks.

Not having received, by the mail of today as was expected, any estimates from the Branch Mint at San Francisco, we must, for the present, rely upon those which have been forwarded to you from that institution.

I am, very Respectfully
Your obt servant,
James Ross Snowden
Director.

Hon. S. Bigger
Register of the Treasury
Washington City.

Schedule of Appropriations required
for the expenses of the United States
Assay Office at New York, for the fiscal
year ending June 30th 1856.

	Dollars
For Salaries of Officers & Clerks, in addition to available balance of former Appropriations	14,400
For Wages of Workmen in addition to an available balance of former Appropriations	40,000
For Incidental & Contingent Expenses ~~of the said Office, in addition to the~~ available means	70,000
	124,400

Note: See Grounds of estimates from Assay Office

To
Hon T. J. Hartington
Act Sec of the Treasy

Suggesting that the
Treas. of Assay Office
be authorized ~~the~~
to deliver from time
to time certain parcels
of bullion for transportation

Oct 28, 1854

October 28th 4.

Sir,

In order to carry into effect the suggestion as to the mode of paying the draft for $500,000 on New York, approved in your favor of the 25th inst, the Superintendent of the Assay office desires some authority from the Department as to the mode of transmitting it. May I therefore suggest that you address the Treasurer of that office, under cover to me, authorizing him to deliver to Adams & Co. from time to time, as convenient, bars of gold bullion intended to be transmitted to this Mint, whether to be applied in payment of the draft in question, or sent over for coinage under the authority of your letter of the 13th inst.

I have the honor to be
with great respect
your obt servant,
James Ross Snowden
Director

Hon. P. G. Washington
Acting Secy of the Treasury
Washington City

Treasury Department
October 28. 1854.

Sir

A draft for $50.000 has this day been drawn on the Treasurer of the Mint in favor of the Treasurer of the United States who desires to have, as nearly as may be $25.000 = Gold dollars. — $13.000 in half dollars — and $12.000 in quarters.

I am very Resp'y
P. V. Hagner
Act. Sec Treasury.

A. R. Snowden Esq.
Director of Mint
Philada

P.S. Your Telegraphic despatch was received and I advised you by Tel. that the requisition referred to, could not be forwarded — requesting you to cause duplicate to be sent.

October 28th 4

Sir,

I have to request that you will issue your requisition, in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint for thirty eight thousand two hundred and twenty five dollars, payable out of the appropriation for the Current fiscal year, viz:

Two Saldines	$ 6,225.00
Wages	18,000.00
Contingent Expenses	14,000.00
	$38,225

I have the honor to be
with great respect
your Mt Servant,

Hon. R. J. Washington
acting Sec. of the Treasury
Washington City.

James R. Snowden
Director.

Copy

Treasury Department
October 29. 1834.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 28th and enclose herewith the authority to the Treasurer of the Assay Office, as you request.

I am very Resp.
Ely Washington
Act Sec. Treasury.

Copy

Mint U S
Oct. 31, 1854

Sir,
The enclosed Statement exhibits the Deposits & Coinage at the Mint during the month ending to-day

I have &c

J R S
Director

Hon J Guthrie

Treasury Department
October 29. 1854.

Sir

I have received your letter of the 28th. and enclose herewith the authority to the Treasurer of the Mint, as you request.

Your requisition in favor of the Treasurer has, also, been received - and a draft will be sent, if possible by to-morrows Mail.

I am very Resp.
R. J. Harrington
Acting Sec. Treasury.

Copy

Treasury Department
October 29. 1854.

Sir,

As a convenient mode of paying the draft on the Assay Office at N York in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint at Philadelphia for $50,000 you are authorized to deliver to Adams & Co. from time to time, as convenient, taking proper receipts for the same, parcels of gold bullion intended to be transmitted to the Mint for coinage, whether to be applied to the payment of the draft in question or sent on under the authority of my letter of the 13th. instant.

I am very Respt.
By Washington,
(Signed) Acting Sec. Treasury.

Dr. Jos. Snowden Esq.
Director of the Mint
Phila.a

P.S. When the draft shall have been paid it will be transmitted to you as your voucher - The Amount of the gold sent for coinage you will receive from the Mint in the usual way.

Copy

U.S. Assay Office
New York 29. Sept. 1854

Sir,

The "Regulations" prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury for the Government of this Office, transmitted by you on the 18th ~~inst.~~, have been received, and I have given to them a careful consideration.

Although the operations of this Office have not yet been commenced, and I have not therefore had that practical acquaintance with the details of its business which is requisite to determine intelligently all the Regulations proper to be enforced, I am nevertheless convinced that among those now prescribed are some that require modification. To these I beg leave to call your attention; and if your larger experience shall confirm the correctness of my conclusions, I entertain no doubt that such alterations as you may deem reasonable will be at once assented to by the Department.

For more convenient reference I have num-

- bered the regulations from 1 to 38.

The 8th regulation requires the Superintende
"to provide secure chests of iron with Spring
fastenings to the lids for the safe Keepin
as far as may be of such bullion as
be on hand, during the day, either in process of
minting, or as being received or transferred from Bran
to branch." If it is the meaning of this regulat
that the iron chests described are to be used
"as far as may be", that is as far as shall
found practicable, no objection can be made to it. B
if, as I suppose is intended, their use is imperati
prescribed, I cannot but think that great inconveni
and delay will be occasioned without any increased
security. The transfer of the deposits from the weigh
room to the Melting Room and their return is,
by regulation 13, to be made in locked trays or boxes
The only transfers, therefore, in which the iron chest
could be employed, are those which take
place in the department of the Melter
Refiner. These transfers are of such constant occurrence
that the delay occasioned by putting the bullion
into the chests & taking it out again, as well
as by the increased labor of ~~transporting~~ trans

porting heavy iron chest filled
heavier bullion, would prove a Serio
to business; and inasmuch as the close
opening of the chests must neces
entrusted to the workmen who trans
best to a great extent, I cannot
additional safety would be effected
to remark also that in many of the tra
bullion is in an unfit state
in such chests.

This regulation also requires that
in a state of solution be removed fro
at the close of business of ea
only bullion that ever is in solution
Nitrate of Silver. The Vaults of th
would require to be reconstructed
enlarged if the Clerk of
after reduction, and the fluid
tubs must be kept in the
ment of this rule would
those processes which
be going forward during th

Reg. 10 requires tha
or other persons whose Ser

[...] the regulations from 1 to 38.

The 5th regulation requires the Superintendent
[...] to procure secure chests of iron with spring
[...] fastenings to the [...] for the safe keeping
[...] as far as may be of such bullion as
[...] on hand, during the day, either in process of
[...] minting, or as being received or transferred from branch
[...] to branch." If it is the meaning of this regulation
[...] that the iron chests described are to be used
[...] as far as may be", that is as far as shall
[...] be practicable, no objection can be made to it. But
[...] as I suppose is intended, their use is imperative
[...] I cannot but think that great inconvenience
[...] delay will be occasioned without any increased
[...] safety. The transfer of the deposits from the weigh-
[...] to the Melting Room and their return is,
[...] regulation 13, to be made in locked trays or boxes
[...] transfers, therefore, in which the iron chests
[...] be employed, are those which take
[...] in the department of the Melter &
[...] These transfers are of such constant occurrence
[...] delay occasioned by putting the bullion
[...] chests & taking it out again [...]
[...] increased labor of ~~transp~~ [...]

-porting heavy iron chests filled with still
heavier bullion, would prove a serious impediment
to business; and inasmuch as the closing and
opening of the chests must necessarily be
entrusted to the workmen who transport it, at
least to a great extent, I cannot see that much
additional safety would be effected. It is proper
to remark also that in many of the transfers of the
bullion is in an unfit state for being placed
in such chests.

This regulation also requires that "all bullion not
in a state of Solution be removed to its proper vault
at the close of business of each day." The
only bullion that ever is in Solution is, I believe,
Nitrate of Silver. The vaults of the Assay Office
would require to be reconstructed and greatly
enlarged if the Chlorid of Silver, the Silver
after reduction, and the lead in the filtering
tubs must be kept in them. The enforce-
ment of this rule would also interrupt
those processes which could otherwise
be going forward during the night.

Reg. 10 requires that all workmen
or other persons whose "services" may not

not be actually required, according to the
4 business on hand, shall be dismissed.
During the intervals between the annuals
of the California Steamer there will
sometimes be occasions when "the business
on hand" will not require half the regular
force of workmen. Is it practicable to
enforce this rule?

Reg. 12 requires the Treasurer and
the Melter & Refiner to attend in the Weigh-
-Room and to witness the weighing of
every deposit. Reg. 13 requires the
same officers to be present in the Melting room
to witness every Melt. - The Treasurer of the
Assay office is also Ass't Treasurer of
the U.S. at New York, and in this capacity
his time is almost wholly occupied.
It would be quite impossible for him
therefore to give any attention to the
duties imposed by this regulation; and
it is doubtless for this reason that he
is empowered by regulation 23 to designate
a clerk for their performance. As the
operations of Weighing & Melting
are necessarily going on at the same
time, however, two special clerks

would be required, and if the 12th & 13th Rs.
are to be enforced, I respectfully suggest that
be authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury
to appoint them.

But these regulations (12th & 13th Rs.) require
the same duties of the Melter & Refiner,
who by Reg 10 may designate his Assistant to
perform them. You will observe, however, that
since the business of the deposit-Melting-
room must necessarily be carried on at the
same time, the Melter & Refiner and his
Assistant cannot both be fully occupied
with their duties, rendering it impossible
for them to attend to the appropriate business
of their Department.

Of Regulation 13 I would further remark
that the deposit Melting-room is therein
regarded as belonging to the Melter & Refiners
department, and the delivery of the deposit
for Melting is viewed as a delivery by
the Treasurer to the Melter & Refiner.
Subsequently the Melted bullion is to be
delivered to the Treasurer to be weighed

and by him Assay Slips are to be
delivered to the Assayer. It is then
re-delivered to the Melter & Refiner, the
weight having been diminished by the
removal of the Assay Slips. As
Sections 21 & 23 of the Mint Act
of Jan. 18, 1837 as also reg. 16, require
that the Melter and Refiner shall be
charged with all bullion delivered
to him and credited with what he
returns, the effect of reg 13 would
not only be to charge and credit him
twice upon the Treasurers books
for the same identical metal, but
also to entitle him, probably, to double
wastage if he showed cause to
claim it.

Does not the arrangement of locked
boxes (Reg 13) involve the necessity of melting
the deposits in their numerical order, with-
out regard to weight? If so, I suppose
it would add materially to the delay
and expense of the process. When a
melting pot is once heated, economy

and economy would suggest
that all the deposits of a Slip
should be melted at that pot should be pur-
sued as long as the pot will last.
However, the pots must be frequently
changed to suit the sizes of the deposits,
and much time will be lost in heating
a fresh ~~deposit~~ pots, and there
will be an increased consumption
of Melting pots & fuel.

In regard to the requirement
to add the weight after melting to
the receipt "when presented by the depositor"
(Reg. 13) I remark that they receipts
rarely be presented except for payment.
This regulation would add not a
little to the labors of the Assay-Clerk
merely to make this entry upon a
cancelled receipt. I believe that
clerical mistakes are very frequently
occasioned by imposing not only too much
labor but too many duties upon one
person. It is desirable also to avoid
needless any repetition of entries

and economy moved Suggest
that all the deposits of a Size
suitable for that pot should be pur-
chased as long as the pot will last.
If, however, the pots must be frequently
changed to suit the Sizes of the deposits,
much time will be lost in heating
up fresh ~~deposits~~ pots, and there
will be an increased consumption
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(Reg. 13) I remark that the receipts will
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little to the labors of the Weigh-Clerk,
merely to make this entry upon a
cancelled receipt. I believe that
clerical mistakes are very frequently
occasioned by imposing not only too much
labor but too many duties upon one
person. It is desirable also to avoid
any needless repetition of ~~needless~~ entries,

The particulars of each deposit including date, name, description of bullion, number, weight before and after melting, must necessarily be entered 1st in the weigh Book; 2d on the receipt; 3d on the Assayers report; 4th on the adjustment Book. Reg. 13 & 14 requires in addition, 5th on the Melter & Refiners Cards. Reg. 15 7th on the "Tatt" a Weekly transcript of the weigh book. Besides these the weighclerk keeps a Signature and Residence Book, and an index book of depositors. It seems to me that the book kept by the Foreman of deposits, showing date, number, description, weight before and after melting, loss or gain in ounces, and loss per cent, is precisely

suficient to the exam
Reg. 14 and that the
also that the
equally ex
Reg. 15 requires
Treasurer is to charge
ships delivered to him, and
with his report of the
ships delivered to him, and
and if at the close of the
amount delivered to him, which
weekly to Bullion
as a foundation
with any

suited to the examination required of the Melter and Refiner by Reg. 14, and that the weekly table might be dispensed with. I remark also that the returned cards would answer the same purpose equally well.

Reg. 15 requires an account to be opened with the Assayer. The Treasurer is to charge him with the "estimated value" of the Assay slips delivered to him, and "credit him with the same as returned with his report of the assay and value thereof." As the value of the slips delivered is to be estimated, it will sometimes be over-estimated, and if, at the close of the year, his returns should be less than the amount delivered to him, where is the authority to allow him wastage? But again, how can the value of the slips be estimated as a foundation for a charge to the Assayer? Can he be legally charged with any other than the Standard weight of the bullion actually delivered to him? You will notice also that the Assayer is to be credited with the slips, "as returned with his report of the Assay and value thereof". The weight of the slips returned will be less than when delivered. I beg you to notice, therefore, the effect of regulations 13 & 15 upon the labors of the Calculating Clerk. He must determine 1st, The Standard weight of each deposit delivered (and charged) to the Melter and Refiner for the purpose of being melted. 2nd The Standard weight of each assay slip delivered to the Assayer. 3rd By deducting the aggregate Standard weight of the Assay slips

from the aggregate Standard Weight of the deposits to deter
the standard weight of the bullion re-delivered to the Melter &
after the Assay Slips are taken off. 4th The Standard weight
rately of the remnants of assay Slips returned daily by the Assay
with his reports." When it is considered that the time of a care
and skilful clerk is wholly occupied in the first of these series
calculations, some estimate may be formed of the increased labo
occasioned by making the Assayer an Accounting Officer. Draw
will be gained by it? By the present method at the Mint, I
understand that the Melter and Refiner is charged with the
Standard Weight of the deposits, without deduction for the Assay
Slips. His interest will therefore dictate the necessity of looking
carefully to the rendition of the remnants of these Slips by the Assayer.
The government is secured both by the Assayer's integrity, and by
the official guarantee of the Melter and Refiner. By the proposed
change, the guarantee of the Melter and Refiner is relinquished.

In the Account of the Assayer, is any charge to be made
for the silver contained in gold slips? If so, a series of infini
tesimal calculations would be the result. If not the
assayer would receive

the course of a year's business, a considera
best charge, and which he could not be legally
remarks also, that a considerable part of the operations
will be upon slips taken from fine bars, prior to their being by the
and Register to the Treasurer. These Assays must be kept distinct
all others, and their remnants returned separately to the depositors
It will be apparent, I think, that in opening an account with the
much inconvenience and perplexity will be occasioned
conceivable advantage, and it would prevent the prompt
the Officers to whom bullion is delivered and charged,
mine its value.

The 18th Reg. involves a blending of the bullion and
accounts. These accounts are essentially distinct; and
the Mint, in Conformity with instructions from the Dep
long been, I understand, to keep and render the Acco

The 19th Reg. involves a blending of the accounts and
Assay Office with those of the Independent Treasury co
templates that they shall be kept distinct.

It is the design of Reg. 27 to prohibit an Officer pos
trusty workman to continue a process not complete
ness, or of regular working hours? The rule commend
and will be the truest economy. The regulation re
that the process be suspended, even though it

in the course of a year's business, a considerable amount of silver without charge, and which he could not be legally required to return. I remark also, that a considerable part of the operations of the Assayer will be upon slips taken from fine bars, prior to their delivery by the Melter and Refiner to the Treasurer. These Assays must be kept distinct from all others, and their remnants returned seperately to the Melter and Refiner. It will be apparent, I think, that in opening an account with the Assayer, much inconvenience and perplexity will be occasioned, without any conceivable advantage; and it would present the anomaly of allowing the Officers to whom bullion is delivered and charged, themself to determine its value.

The 18th Reg. involves a blending of the bullion and Ordinary accounts. These accounts are essentially distinct; and the usage of the Mint, in conformity with instructions from the Department has long been, I understand, to keep and render the Accounts, Separately.

The 19th Reg. involves a blending of the accounts and moneys of the Assay office with those of the Independent Treasury; while Reg 3. contemplates that they shall be kept distinct.

It is the design of Reg. 27 to prohibit an Officer from leaving one a more trusty workman to continue a process not completed at the close of business, or of regular working hours. This will sometimes be necessary, and will be the truest economy. This regulation would require, that either that the process be suspended, even though attended with loss and

inconveniences, or that the whole force of the department, in whi
the work occurs, shall be retained on pay when their services can
be employed. Would it not also forbid the process of filtering being
trusted to a night hand, unless attended by the Officer of the Departm

3. Reg. 29 intended to apply to cases of sickness and accident
detention? A deduction from the wages of the workmen in such ca
would be extremely oppressive. Why should salaried Officers be tre
with more leniency in this respect than those whose compensation
computed by the day?

Reg. 30, makes Christmas a holiday, though it is regarded as suc
in New York only to a limited extent; while it omits New Year's
and Thanksgiving day, which are universally observed as holidays
in this city.

Of Regulations 34, 35, 36 & 37, I remark that frequent annoyance, in-
convenience, and delay must arise from placing the bullion under
the joint custody of two Officers, and I cannot perceive that any ad-
ditional security is afforded. During the day, when the Officer is
present, he has sole custody; during the night, when he is absent,
another has joint custody with him. It is a question at least how far
the responsibility of an Officer and his surety may be effected by
thus taking from him the custody of the bullion with which he
stands charged, and committing it in part to another not selected
by him.

Will not the limitation of the time of access to the Treasurer's vaults
from 8 and 9 in the morning to 3 P.M. prove a serious impediment

No 3356 = 1819. 11 6
Coin 48. 18
Bar 1270. 38
1819 11 6

...iness? The workmen in the Deposit Melting room will be un-
...pied before and after those hours, and the number of deposits
...can be melted and assayed in a day will be considerably less
...will be expected by those who have heretofore had dealings with
...Mint.

Having thus adverted to what I regard as the objectionable
...ture of these regulations, I notice that in your letter enclosing
...you are careful to state that they "have been prescribed by
...Secretary of the Treasury" and that they are "transmitted" by you
...accordance with instructions from the Treasury Department."
...act of Congress creating this Office, makes it the duty of the
...ector of the Mint, "to prescribe such regulations, and to ord
...tests, as shall be requisite to insure faithfulness, accuracy,
...family in the operations of said Office." To a mere transmis
...regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury a comp
...with the requirements of this Act. As you have not presc
...these regulations, I must infer that you have not approved
...them; and I therefore hope that you will see the necessity
...their being materially modified. Before I can attempt to
...enforcement, I must know that they are prescribed by the D
...of the Mint, upon whom the law devolves this duty, and whose pe
...knowledge, and experience eminently qualify him to perform

I am with great respect
Your Obt. Servt.
James A. Bat...

Hon. James Ross Snowden
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

...in the aggregate

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...him the custody of the bullion with which he
...and committing it in part to another, not selected

...limitation of the time of access to the Treasurer's vaults
...morning to 3 P. M., prove a serious impediment

business? The workmen in the Deposit Melting room will be unoccupied before and after those hours, and the number of deposits which can be melted and assayed in a day will be considerably less than will be expected by those who have, heretofore, had dealings with the Mint.

Having thus adverted to what I regard as the objectionable features of these regulations, I notice that in your letter, enclosing them, you are careful to state that they "have been prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury", and that they are "transmitted" by you "in accordance with instructions from the Treasury Department." The act of Congress creating this Office makes it the duty of the Director of the Mint, "to prescribe such regulations, and to order such tests, as shall be requisite to insure faithfulness, accuracy, and uniformity in the operations of said Office" Is a mere transmission of regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury a compliance with the requirements of this act? As you have not prescribed these regulations, I must infer that you have not approved them; and I therefore hope that you will see the necessity of their being materially modified. Before I can attempt their enforcement, I must know that they are prescribed by the Director of the Mint, upon whom the law devolves this duty, and whose position, knowledge, and experience, eminently qualify him to perform it.

I am with great respect
Your Obt. Servt.
Sam. F. Butterworth
Supt.

Hon. James Ross Snowden
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

Phila 30. Oct. 1854

Dear Sir

Your favor, naming several of my operatives for removal, has just been received. While I applaud your attention to the interests of Govt in reducing the operative force to a number commensurate with the work of the Mint, the same interests urge me to remark:

1st, that most of those named are among the most industrious, most skilful, faithful & unobtrusive men in my whole dept.

2nd that you have named 3 melters, leaving only two for the Gold & Silver Rooms; — that one of the three, H. Moyer, is one of the best, perhaps the very best, melters in the Mint, — that it will be difficult to replace one of the melters, as most of the others have been tried & proved inefficient.

Lastly, dear Sir, since the selection of workmen is in the hands of the Director, their removal must proceed directly from him, unless you wish me to communicate to my men your determination in relation to them. In this & in all other things relating to the welfare of the Mint, I shall be happy to cooperate with you

Very respectfully, yours,

Jas C Booth
Melter & Refiner

J. R. Snowden Esq
Director
U. S. Mint

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, Oct 31st 1854

Dear Sir,

I have your favor of yesterday. As you regard H. Moyer as perhaps the best Melter in the Establishment and his place difficult to supply you and other workmen you will Consider his name withdrawn from the list furnished you yesterday.

When the public service - as it is now so evidently the case - requires a reduction of the force employed in the mint, I have no hesitancy in taking the responsibility of the act. You may therefore inform the persons named that the resolution to dispense with their services, in the present proceeds from the Director, but that he deeply regrets the unpleasant necessity which is forced upon him.

Your Respectfully
J. A. P.

J. C. Booth Esq

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, Oct. 30th 1854

Dear Sir,

I greatly regret that it becomes necessary, in consequence of the diminished supply of bullion, to diminish the force employed at the Mint.

For the present therefore the services of the following named persons will be dispensed with in your Department.

Viz: Franklin Hulings
David Cassell
Wm Hulings
John McConn
Henry Moyer
John K. Brazer
Charles Clymer
Timothy Dunn.

Same as in C. G.] ~~In order that these~~ workmen may have an ~~opportunity of seeking other employments.~~ They will be paid ~~for 15 days on the last of November~~

Yours Respectfully
James Ross Snowden
Director.

J. C. Booth Esq.
Melter & Refiner U.S. Mint.

W. E. Bryant absent without leave.
M. D. Kelly

Oct. 31st 4.

Sir,

Your letter of the 28th inst advising me that a draft for $50,000 had been drawn on the Treasurer of the State in favor of the Treasurer of the U States and specifying the denominations of Coin desired in payment of the same has been received and the amount forwarded this day as follows:

$25,000. Gold Eagles
13,000 Half Eagles
12,000 Do
$50,000.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your faithful servant.
Saml Ralph Thomden
Treasr.

Hon. P. Washington,
Act. Sec. Treasury,
Washington City.

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, October 31st 1854.

Sir,

Your letter of the 28th inst advising me that a draft for $50,000 had been drawn on the Treasurer of the Mint in favor of the Treasurer of the U. States and specifying the denominations of coin which that Officer desired in payment of the above draft has been received. The draft has this day been received and the Amount of the same forwarded in the following coins:

$25,000	Gold Dollars
13,000	H. Dollars
12,000	2½ "
$50,000.	

I have the honor to be,
With great respect
Your faithful Servant

Director.

Hon. R. J. Washington,
Act. Sec. of the Treasury,
Washington City.

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, October 30, 1854.

Sir,

On the 28th inst. I addressed the Department as to the mode of transmitting the proceeds of the draft for $300,000 on your Office as follows: "The Superintendent of the Assay Office desires some authority from the Department

October 31, 4

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 24th inst I have to state that the transmission by mail of $10 in copper coins is impracticable on account of the heavy postage expense which would attend the same.

Adams & Co Express forward parcels to all the principal towns in your state and it is probable that the amount you name, could be sent through the above agency to some place in your vicinity.

I am very Respectfully

Your Resp Servant

Director

Mr. William K. Bon[illegible]

Post Master

Eddin[illegible] Ky.

U.S. MINT GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE 1854/OCTOBER (CONT.)

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, October 20.th 1854

Sir,

In accordance with your instructions I have caused a table to be made of the old and useless machinery and implements belonging to the Mint, and enclose a copy of the Sale Act for your information. The net proceeds - $1418.98/100, have been placed in the Ordinary fund of the Mint.

(Copy)

Mint of the United States.
Philadelphia, October 19th 1854

Sir,

The Superintendent of the Assay Office at New York asks for $500,000 in fine bars, in addition to that amount which we have supplied to him; and, among other reasons for making the request, he states that a defect in the Chimney and flues for carrying off the noxious fumes has developed itself, so that it is difficult for the workmen to remain in the parting room. This difficulty he will take immediate measures to remove.

As I am desirous of working up our bullion into small coins, and have, heretofore, given directions to that effect, we can only supply the fine bars he asks for on being furnished with a like amount of bullion from the Assay Office. If therefore, the Department concurs in the opinion that it is expedient to supply the bars in question, I suggest that a transfer draft for $500,000, payable by the Treasurer of the Assay Office in unparted bullion, be issued in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint payable in fine bars. In 8 or 10 days after we receive the bullion from New York, we can make a return of fine bars. We could make an earlier return, were it not for the fact that we have diminished our force in the melting and refining department, having sent some sixteen of our experienced

workmen to New York; once I do not desire to supply their place by new workmen, wishing to keep the expense of this installation at as low a figure as possible.

In addition to the $300.000, the Superintendent desires $50.000 in fine bars to pay for deposits now due. This amount I can send at once, if you issue a transfer warrant for it, and I recommend that it be done.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your faithful Servant

James Ross Snowden
Director.

Hon. James Guthrie,
Secretary of the Treasury.
Washington City.

UNITED STATES ASSAY OFFICE,

New York, Oct 20 1854

Sir

I enclose a proposition rec^d today from Thompson Livingston & Co, you will see that they propose to transport the bullion to & from the Mint for 37½ cts for Gold & $1.00 for Silver. In my former letter I mentioned that Adams & Co had made an offer to transport bullion at 37½ cts for gold & $1.50 for silver, per thousand that offer was made by Mr Dinsmore the head of the house here, on yesterday Mr Sanford (who is a member of the firm resides at Phil^a) called on me and said that Mr Dinsmore had made a mistake, the charge would be 50^cts for the transportation of gold & $1.50 for silver per thousand - Mr Dinsmore assured me that Thompson Livingston & Co were associated with Adams & Co, in this I think he was mistaken for if they were members of the same association we should not have such dissimilar offers for the same service - Thompson Livingston & Co are proprietors of Harnden Express -

Respy

Sam. F. Butterworth Supt.

Hon^d Jas. Ross Snowden
Director

United States Assay Office,
New York, Oct. 20, 1854.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of yesterday I have to state that it will be impossible for us to pay a transfer draft for $500,000 in unparted bullion. All deposits, except for coinage, have been delivered to our Melter & Refiner & are now in process of refining &c. I may state also that all bullion deposited prior to the 17th inst. was delivered to the Melter & Refiner under the regulation of the Department of Sept. 28th., since which about $10,000 has been deposited for coinage, & now remains in the hands of the Treasurer to be transferred to the Mint, in accordance with the conditions of your letter of the 14th inst. I cannot suppose it to be your intention that any of the bullion deposited here for bars should be transferred to the Mint, because besides apparently conflicting with the provisions of the law,

it would not increase our means of meeting promptly the demands upon us. It would take from our Melter & Refiner the material from which to make fine bars here, and would only come back to us after being operated on at the Mint.

One case is this: We are called upon to pay the bulk of our deposits in bars. To do this promptly, we must have a fund in fine bars, & not in coins. If the Mint has not these bars on hand to give us, we must say to depositors We can return your bars in 10 days, or if they prefer to go to the Mint, they must do so.

I may state that our M. & M. promises to deliver about $400,000 in bars by Monday or Tuesday next. This will perhaps be about half enough for the expected steamers. I should be glad to know whether any, what amt. will be sent to us from the Mint by that time, so that we may give depositors exact information.

I desire further, that for the transfer of bullion to the Mint for Coinage, our Treasurer requires simply an order from the Department, directing him to send, by Adams & Co. or any other Conveyance, such bullion as may be from time to time deposited for coinage. This will relieve the Treasurer from responsibility and will obviate the necessity of any transfer drafts.

Please send the "Garrison Flag"

I am with great respect

Your Ob't Sert

Sam. F. Butterworth

Supt

P.S. – The Silver dollars have not come to hand. We were this morning obliged to issue two Certificates payable at the Mint in Silver Dollars. S.F.B.

Col. J.R. Snowden,
Director of the Mint,
Philad'a.

Thursday

United States Assay Office.

New York, Oct 30 1854

Sir

In your letter of the 5th inst you suggested the propriety of "placing Mr De Forest at this Office for a few weeks in order that we might have the benefit of his experience acquired at the Mint". If you can spare him now I shall be pleased to have his services here at as early a day as possible.

I return the a/c of Ann Fraser for her signature to the rect, when signed please return it & the amt shall be forwarded.

Deposits made on Friday at 5 P.M. were paid on Saturday before 3 P.M.! About 850m from the last steamer were left here, of which only 25m is intended for Coin; how much did you receive? $1,700.000 arrived & only one half of the amt was deposited here = Kane the "sweep grinder" is physically unable to perform his duties, what shall I do with him? - The enclosed is evidently intended for you! -

Respy Sam F. Butterworth Supt

Hon Jas Ross Snowden
Director

(over)

P.S. I propose to furnish you with the monthly report tomorrow and thereafter with a weekly report, I hope this will be satisfactory

B.

P.S. I propose to furnish you with the "monthly report" tomorrow and thereafter with weekly report, I hope this will be satisfactory

B.

Oct 30 [illegible]

[illegible]

Oct. 31. [illegible]

Sir,

I have received [illegible] [illegible] which you enclosed to me. [illegible] for the [illegible] of the mint being [illegible] application by Mr. [illegible], [illegible] of [illegible] for employment in the [illegible] dept of the Mint. [illegible] be [illegible] at my early convenience,

Very Respectfully

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] I propose to furnish you with the mo[illegible]
report tomorrow and thereafter with a
report, I hope this will be satisfactory

B.

Oct 3rd [illegible]

Sir,

[illegible]

I propose to furnish you with the [illegible]
report tomorrow and thereafter with [illegible]
report, I hope this will be satisfactory

B.

[illegible]

to you.

The condition of the Branch Mint San Francisco will consequently diminish the funds on the Atlantic side. You state that five hundred thousand dollars about 550,000 of the last arrivals, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] than 150,000. So that 7 or 800,000 of the amt. thought to be preserved by the recent arrivals was operated upon at San Francisco.

I expect you to send [illegible] the amt. expended for coinage, and hopes it may come to hand to-day, but I hope [illegible] by not [illegible] [illegible] until to morrow.

I am very Respectfully

Jam. Guthrie
Secretary

Sam. F. Butterworth Esq.
Supt. Assay Office,
New York.

I propose to furnish you with the monthly report tomorrow and thereafter with a weekly report, I hope this will be satisfactory

P.S. I have noticed your remark as to the health of James Kane (of the Secret Service) and regret to learn that he is unable to perform his duties. Perhaps you may find some of those who are in that service or some kindred employment [illegible] [illegible]. Please do the best you [illegible] for him, as by the arrangement [illegible] I could not find a place for him. I find it necessary, in view of the diminished supply of [illegible], to reduce the [illegible] and [illegible] of that [illegible] [illegible], and I [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] S. P. C.

October 19 [illegible]

Sir,

In answer to the application for a flag for your office I am informed that the Quarter Master at New York has no flags in his charge, but the Quarter Master in this City, Major Bateman has been instructed to have sent to you, upon payment of the cost thereof, either a "Garrison" or "Storm" flag as you may require. The garrison flag is about 80 feet long by by 20 hoist and costs $36 [illegible]/100. The storm flag is one third the size of the garrison, and costs $11 76/100.

As soon as I learn from you which of these flags you prefer I will have it sent. Perhaps at your request we might venture to get one of each kind. It may be deemed that the storm flag will suit you best. You can take such means as you think best to reimburse the Mint here for the amount which I will pay.

Very Respectfully
Yours,
James Ross Snowden
Director

Sam. F. Butterworth Esq.
Supt. Assay office
New York

Oct. 19th ... 4

Sir,

I have written to the Treasury Department and asked for a draft to be issued in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint on the Assay Office for $[illegible] payable in unparted bullion, and that a draft for a similar amount be issued in favor of the Assay Office on the Mint payable in fine bars. In 8 or 10 days after we receive the bullion from you we can make a return in fine bars.

I have also requested that a draft for $50,000 payable in fine bars be issued. This amount we can have paid as soon as the draft is presented.

Our capacity to refine at present is somewhat diminished from the fact of our having given up a portion of our workmen, and for other reasons which it is unnecessary to specify. I may also add that our bullion on hand is mainly in the course of preparation for striking small coins, hence the necessity of our being supplied with bullion before we can make a return of fine bars.

I am &c, Respectfully
James Pollock
Director

Saml. J. [illegible] Esq.
Supt. Assay Office
New York.

U. S. Assay Office,
New York, Oct. 19, 1854.

Sir,

I will thank you to send me a copy of any regulations that have been prescribed at the Mint for the Workmen and Watchmen.

Very respectfully,
Your obt. servt.,
S. F. Butterworth
Supt.
by Geo. F. Downing.

Col. J. R. Snowden,
Director of the Mint,
Phila.

U. S. Assay Office,
New York, Oct. 19, 1854.

Sir,

The amount of Silver deposited for Coinage up to this time at this office exceeds $2100. The sum of $2000 which you propose to send us in dollars will not therefore be sufficient. In view of the probable increase of silver deposits, I would suggest therefore that you send us at least $10,000.

Very respectfully
Your ob. Servt.,
S. T. Butterworth, Supt.,
by Geo. T. Denning.

Col. J.R. Snowden,
Director of Mint.
Phil.

Oct 21. 4

Sir,

Messrs Thomas & Arthur, who have a bill for making a syphon for your office, and others having bills, are constantly calling here for payment. I have mentioned that they must be handed at your office, and have leave to ask your early attention to the subject.

Very Respectfully
your ob^t servant,
J. R. Snowden
Director

James H. Butterworth Esq
Supt. Assay Office
New York

Oct 21st 4.

Sir,

I have your letter of the 19th inst. In regard to the Regulations for the ordnance storekeepers, paymasters and storekeepers, we are carrying into effect the spirit of the regulations prescribed by the department in accordance with the instructions I expressed to you in my letter of the 9th inst. I will endeavour however to send you by the [illegible] of Monday some specific directions on this subject. They are now being transmitted but [illegible] not prepared in time to be enclosed herewith.

[illegible] today [illegible] certificates No 1 and 2 of deposits made at your office payable in silver dollars. I have not yet heard from the department in respect to my request to supply you with $2,000 silver dollars. The amount we paid here [illegible] $991.[illegible], was that a part of the 2100 you speak of as being deposited for dollars? It is very extraordinary that there should be a demand for silver dollars, as they are no longer a coin of circulation. When I hear from the department I will write you again on this subject.

I have to request that you will cause your letters to be put in the Post office in time for the

afternoon or evening mail from New York. Your letters are invariably post marked the day after their date, and as they do not reach this city until after 3 o'clock I do not receive them until the next morning. If you can remedy this I will be much obliged to you.

I have heard nothing from Washington on the subject of the $500,000 and $50,000 drafts asked for.

How long will it take to remedy the difficulty you spoke of in the melting room?

Very Respectfully
Your Ob't Servant,
James Ross Snowden
Director

Saml F. Butterworth Esq.
Supt. Assay Office
New York

P.S. I regret I have not received your estimates. I can no longer delay sending those from the Mint and Branches, and when yours are received I will send them to be added. I am informed by the Register that the Mint estimates are wanted immediately. The other [illegible] have [illegible] in the [illegible]

Janr. &

To.

S. F. Butterworth Esq

Supt. Assay Office

N.Y.

21st Oct

1st. As to Regulations for Watchmen & Doorkeepers Specific directions called

2d. As to Silver to pay for Silver deposits

3. As to receipts of Supt. letters which do not reach here until 3d. day

4. Call attention to payment of Bills & more particularly that of Sharps & Brothers

Regulations for the Workmen of the Assay Office.

1. 8 days work at the Assay office shall be ten hours throughout the year. The work shall commence at seven o'clock in the morning and continue until five o'clock in the afternoon; and it shall be the duty of the foremen of the several rooms to report to their Officers all absences during the intervening hours. For all such absences, deductions shall be made from the wages proportional to the time lost; being at the rate of one tenth of a days wages per hour. except the absence be occasioned by sickness or other unavoidable cause. Absence without leave shall be a cause for discharge

2. During the working hours none of the men can leave the Assay Office without permission from their Officers. No hours will be allowed them for eating their dinner which must be brought to the building.

3. It shall be at the option of the Superintendent to permit or require work of the men before or after the prescribed hours; but for all such work, extra pay shall be allowed at the rate of one tenth of a days wages for every hour.

4. A roll shall be kept by each officer, to be noted day by day, of the actual attendance of the workmen employed in his proper branch of business, which will be required at the end of each month, by the Superintendent. He will also make to the Superintendent at the end of each month, a confidential report, for the purpose of keeping him advised of the habits of all

the Mill, soberly and faithfully of each workman, & the wards.

5. The Assay Office will never be left but in the charge, in the day, of at least three trustworthy persons, and in the night of Six Watchmen. The Watchmen will relieve the Messengers in charge, at 5 O'clock P.M. and will, in their turn, be relieved by the Messengers at 5 O'clock A.M. Rounds will be prescribed by the Superintendent, who will devise such mode of securing their observance and proper vigilance on the part of the Watchmen, as he may deem expedient.

6. The Messengers, at the end of Office hours, and the workmen, at the end of working hours, will severally close the doors, windows, shutters and other fastenings, and put every thing in its proper place and in a state of security, in their respective portions of the building to be prescribed by the Superintendent. At the end of working hours, the Messengers in charge of the building shall make a careful examination throughout, to see that the fastenings are secure, the fires safe, and no one concealed in the building. When severally the Watchmen at 5 O'clock P.M. the Watchmen shall repeat the same inspection and examination, and the Messengers, at soon as they relieve the Watchmen at 5 O'clock A.M. will again repeat this inspection.

7. The Watchmen and Messengers will be

in constant readiness for immediate use
and none but middle aged, able bodied
men, of good character and steady habits,
will be employed in either of said capacities

East Smithfield Bradford County Pa Oct. 17. 1851

Dear Sir

Some question having arose in this vicinity whether the three cent pieces coined at the mint are a legal tender in payment of debts and not having the act of Congress which authorized their coinage at hand You will very much oblige by informing me by mail what the law is upon the subject

Yours respectfully

Daniel Bullock

The Hon the Director of the mint
Phila

October 28th   4.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 19th inst. In reply to your enquiry I have to state that the Three cent pieces coined prior to the present year, are by law a legal tender for thirty cents and those coined during this year are such for any sum not exceeding five dollars. The figures on a piece exhibits the year it was coined.

I am. Very Respectfully,

James Ross Snowden

Director.

Mr. Daniel Bullock
East Smithfield
Bradford Co.
Pa.

States,

185

FOWLER'S
Life Illustrated
A NEW
FIRST-CLASS
Family Newspaper,
Devoted to News, Literature, Science
and the Arts; to Entertainment,
Improvement, and Progress.
Published Weekly, at $2 00 a year,
BY
FOWLERS & WELLS,
308 Broadway,
N. Y.
& WELLS.

Office of Life Illustrated,
No. 308 BROADWAY,
New York.

New York Oct 17 1854

Dear Sir.

Wishing to prepare an article on the Gold Coins of the U.S. I take the liberty to write you to inquire if you can refer me to any Work or Works ~~or Works~~ where I can find the dates of the first Coinage of the different pieces. If so we shall be under obligations which we shall be happy to acknowledge & Reciprocate

L. N. Richards
For Fowlers & Wells

Oct 18 4

Gentlemen.

In reply to your letter of yesterday I send you a copy of the Mint Laws, a tabular statement of Coinage up to 1841 and a copy of my last annual report to the President of the United States. You will readily find all the information you desire through the means of these documents. If you should have any difficulty in any point and write me on the subject I will gladly aid you.

Very Respectfully

Samuel Roads Snowden
Director U.S. Mint.

Messrs. Fowlers & Wells
No. 308 Broadway
New York

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, 185

New York No 70 Wall St.
Oct. 17. 1854

Robt Snowden Esq.

Dear Sir,

I take occasion to send to your address per mail a short article on "the Mint", by Professor Wilson.

It is possible that he has, in the hurry of his account, committed one or more errors.

If such exist, or any explanatory "Remarks" are deemed by you appropriate, I shall be glad to give them place, if rec'd on or before Saturday next.

Very respectfully
Your obt. Svt
Judith Hanway

Charles Cooper, Refiner & S. 120 Great Charles St
Birmingham

De Sillat, 99 Rue St Louis — Paris

Gautier, Aîné — Paris

Sheffield Smelting Co — Sheffield

Johnson & Sons, 18a Basinghall St London

Dr. Jos. W. Farnum (care of Baring, Bros & Co) London

Hon. J. Buchanan, Minister, London

Hon. Jno. Y. Mason, Minister, Paris

I am, dear Sir,
very Respectfully
Your obt. servant,
James Ross Snowden
Director

J. Smith Homans Esq.
New York.

P.S. There are some errors in the figures, &c
I will notice a few.
p. 361 line 10 from top $2,000,000 should
read $650,000
p. 362 line 5 from top (6x3x14) should
be (6 feet x 3 ft x 14 inches)
p. 362 line 7 from top (3 ft x 4 ft x 2 feet)
Same p. line 9 from bottom "lead sifting and
washing [illegible] the cost, [illegible] [illegible]"

a of inferior importance.
3. The Statement about annealing plates with
acid wrote. The test of this fact has been
proved and we have returned to the employ-
ment of wire.
4. The Core transfer of the Credit of the Coining
Machine & Counting board from the indenture
to that of another officer.
5 The disproportionate of male Coinage and
male Labor as Compared with females.

6. The general loss of organization and
classification which has been brought the whole
and expense on ordinary work what
is really the Coinage of the Mint under
the Act of [illegible] work. To
accomplish the Coinage last year
of Millions of pieces Dollars &c
pieces and

I make these remarks not for publication
but with a wish that you may be enlightened from
Quarter to Quarter of the whole for service
I am desired to make them for your own
use. I regret that I cannot comply with
your request to furnish explanatory remarks
to accompany the tables in practice.

Oct 20. 4

Dear Sir,

I thank you for the courtesy of sending me the article by Prof. Wilson on the "Mint of the United States". While it contains much exact information it is erroneous in many particulars and subject to criticism and correction. But it seems indelicate and improper for me to undertake the task. If you deem a republication of the article expedient it must stand upon its own merits and authorship. It is however greatly to be regretted that it wears the appearance of having been furnished by the Mint; whereas this is the first intimation ~~[illegible]~~ which most of the officers, including myself for the chief officer of the Mint and Branches — have had of the preparation of such an article or ~~[illegible]~~ that Prof. Wilson was even a visitor at the Mint.

I could point out numerous errors.

1. As to the employment of assayers and workmen; this power is lodged in the Director at the Mint, and with the Superintendents at the Branches.
2. The statement that we assay gold by the wet process of Gay Lussac.
3. The omission of the assaying & refining departments

Office of the Assistant Treasurer, U. S.

New York, Oct 17th 1854

Daniel Sturgeon Esq.
Treas. U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia,

Sir

I have this day forwarded by Messrs Adams & Co. Express for Draft No 1215 on you, in my favor, for $50,000. payable in silver Coins. I will thank you to send $5,000. in Dimes, $5,000. in half Dimes, $10,000. in half Dollars, and $30,000. in quarter Dollars.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant.
John J. Cisco
Ass't Treas'r.

Rec'd by Adams & Co as above
Oct 18/54

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, Oct 17th 1854.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 16th inst
in explanation of the transfer by the Assistant Treasurer of the Mint
at New Orleans of the Amount stated in your letter to the Treasury of the
Mint. I enclose a copy of my letter of 28th ult instructions to the Supt
of that Branch as to the disposition to be made of the Silver
parted from by Lees, during the yr 1850, before Silver Sc parts
was allowed to Depositors under which instructions the
transfer referred to in your letter was made,

~~The Specie forwarded by Adams & Co Express began~~
~~received at the Mint~~ I have this day received the
Specie forwarded by your per Adams & Co Express the net Value of
which as soon as ascertained will be ~~paid into~~
~~the Treasury of the Mint~~ disposed of as directed
in your letter.

Oct. 13 1

Sir,

I do myself the honor to call your attention to the subject of preparing estimates for the Mint and Branches for the fiscal year 1855 & 6. I beg to also your attention to the necessity of your furnishing me with an estimate for your office, as early as convenient.

I am Respectfully

Your Obt. Servt.

James Ross Snowden
Director.

Saml. H. Butterworth Esqr.
Supt. Assay Office
New York

Oct 17th

Sir,

I have to request that you will transmit to me a weekly and monthly report of the operations of the Assay Office, showing the amount and description of deposits, in what manner and place payable, &c. in such form as may best suit your convenience and give the information desired.

I am very Respectfully

James Ross Snowden
Director.

Sam. F. Butterworth Esq.
Superintendent
Assay Office
New York

Sale of gold and silver Sweeps at the Mint of the U.S. Philada

Sealed proposals will be received at the Mint of the United States until 3, o'clock on the 15th of January next, - when they will be opened by the Director of the Mint in the presence of such of the bidders as may be present - for the purchase of ~~146~~ one hundred and forty five barrels of Mint Sweeps Containing gold and silver. They will be sold in lots, of ten barrels each, and any of the lots bundled to the highest bidders. Should however the bids unexpectedly fall greatly below the true value of the Sweeps as reported by the Assay, the Director reserves the power of rejecting the whole of said bids.

The forms of the bids should state the price offered per hundred pounds avoirdupois, payable in cash at the Mint on delivery of the Sweeps ~~at the mint~~. Samples for Assay will be furnished on application at the Mint.

By order of James Ross Snowden Director of the Mint.

Jas. Pollock,
Oct. 17. 1854. Treasurer.

Copy

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, Oct 7 1854

Dear Sir,

Please publish the enclosed for one month and send bill thereafter to the Mint

Respectfully

Hon. A. O. P. Nicholson
Ed Nash Union

Sale of Gold and Silver Sweeps at the Mint of the U.S. Philad.a

Sealed proposals will be received at the Mint of the United States, until 3 o'clock on the 15th of January next, when they will be opened by the Director of the Mint, in the presence of such of the bidders as may be present, for the purchase of One hundred and forty five barrels of Mint Sweeps containing gold and Silver.

They will be sold in lots: thirteen of ten barrels each, and one of fifteen barrels, to the highest bidders. Should, however, the bids unexpectedly fall greatly below the true value of the Sweeps, as reported by the Mint Assay, the Director reserves the power of rejecting the whole of said bids.

The form of the bids should state the price offered per hundred pounds avoirdupois, payable in Cash at the Mint on delivery of the Sweeps. Samples for Assay will be furnished on application at the Mint.

By Order of James Ross Snowden Director of the Mint.

Daniel Sturgeon

Treasurer.

Oct. 17. 1854

Publish for one Month
Send bill to the Mint

UNITED STATES ASSAY OFFICE,

New York, Oct 17th 1854

Sir

In your letter of the 14th inst you request my views as to the manner in which transfers of bullion can be most judiciously & properly made between the Mint & this office - I think that these transfers can be made without the agency of any Express Company, the practice I know has been to employ Adams & Co. to pay them at the rate of $375 for the transportation (& insurance) of a million of gold and $1500 for a like amt of silver; I am satisfied that this can be effected with equal safety & convenience and at much less expense by an individual agent to be employed by the Treasy Depmt at a reasonable salary required to give ample security - The bullion should be transported in iron boxes of convenient size, locked, one set of keys retained here & the other at the Mint, these boxes could be placed in the mail car & an arrangement could be made with the R.R. Co.

to have a separate car for that purpose - The charge made by Adams & Co are not only for transportation but also for insurance, what is this insurance with? and why should the Govt insure? if there be a loss by the sinking of a ferry boat or any inevitable accident is it not better that the Govt should sustain the loss than individuals? I do not value the insurance of an Express Company a straw, in the event of the loss of a million of dollars, not one dime could ever be recovered from them, they give no bond, which I think every person should do who handles the money of the Treasury -

Our Stock of bullion is exhausted by the days payments - although our habilities are met for the present, we ought to have a further remittance - I learn from Prof Kent, the Mint Refiner - That there has been a serious defect in the arrangement for carrying off the nitrous fumes from his parting kettles - In the first place the pipes through which the fumes pass to the chimney are not half large enough, and secondly they are inserted into the stack so as to discharge the fumes into the corner flues which are cold, instead of the center flue, which is heated by the furnace, the consequence is that the parting rooms yesterday and today have been filled with fumes so as to render it difficult for the workmen to remain there - I have given orders to have this remedied; but owing to this delay & the uncertainty thus thrown upon the operations of our refinery it is impossible to tell when we can have any fine bars - Another Steamer may be expected by tuesday next (24th inst) and as most of the bullion intended for bars will be deposited here, we ought to receive from the Mint another half million with permission to send for more if required -

I am with great respect
Your Ob't Servt
Sam F. Butterworth
Supt

Hon'd
Jas. Ross Snowden
Director Mint

Wm & Jo. Lord

Octr 19th 4

Sir,

I thank you for your favor of the 17th inst in which you request some views respecting the mode of transporting Lumber and Coal between the Mint and the Depy Offices, which was asked for in my Letter of the 16th inst.

It seems that by the laws of New Jersey the Railroad Companies are permitted to charge, of the Citizens of the State, 3 cents per mile as transit charge between the two cities, and I have reason to believe that the charge would be made if the government employed an individual as an agent. If an adequate salary was paid the agent, it might perhaps be done: otherwise there would be great trouble; besides I think

Trm & To S. F. Butterworth Esq
Supt. Assay Offi

we ourselves perceive nothing on the
score of either safety or convenience,
especially if we require, as the
Department may do, the giving of
security by the transportation agents.
Adams & Co. have carried immense
sums of money for us without loss
and with great promptness.
I have however referred the whole
subject, and your recent suggestions,
to the Treasury Department to
whose judgment we will respectfully
defer.

I am very Respectfully

James Ross Snowden
Director

Saml. F. Butterworth Esq.
Supt. Assay Office
New York.

Copy

M U S
Phil. Oct 16 1854

Dear Sir

As requested I send you herewith a copy of my letter to the Treasury Department on the subject of the proper construction to be put on the Assay Office Laws

Yours J R Snowden

H. Butterworth Esq
Supt Assay Office
N Y

U. S. Assay Office, Treasurer's Department.

New York, Oct 16th 1854

Daniel Sturgeon Esq
Treas. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia.

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst. and bars and coin, amounting to $34.826.16, which added to the amount heretofore transmitted, is in full payment for the draft of $500,000. in my favor.

Very Respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
John J. Cisco
Treasurer.

UNITED STATES ASSAY OFFICE,

New York, Oct 16 1854

Sir

The proposition "to transport gold bars from this office to the Mint and gold coin from the Mint to this office for 25 cents for one thousand dollars" was made by Livingston & Co proprietors of the Hamden Express - a similar proposition has been made by Frost & Forrest of this City, they are amongst the most responsible merchants of the City, Mr Frost is a member of the Chamber of Commerce & named me decently to any one. I will write you on this subject again tomorrow -

With great respect
Your Ob Servt
Sam T. Butterworth
Supt.

Hon
Jas Ross Snowden
Director &c

Oct. 18th 4.

Sir,

I have fully considered the paragraph in your favor of the 12th inst in which you ask me to enquire and report to you in what mode the transfers between the Mint and the Assay Office can be most judiciously and properly made in the detail particulars of expense safety and convenience.

Whilst I would prefer the arrangement respecting these transfers and the mode of adjusting the accounts between the Mint and Assay Office which I suggested on the 10th of May last yet as the Department desires, as far as possible to avoid a system of Accounts between the offices in question, I fully acquiesce in the arrangement proposed by you, namely: that the transfers in question should be made by drafts from the Treasury. I can instruct the Superintendent to send to you a Statement showing the weight and value of the deposit made for coinage and request a transfer draft for that value in favor of the Mint. When the bullion is sent here, it can be accompanied with such a detailed Statement as I may require from the Assay office. If at any time it should be found necessary to send coin to New York it can be transported in the same manner so that I think there will be no practical difficulty in the way of carrying out your suggestion.

With regard to the safety of the bullion in transitu I may remark that Messrs Adamson & Co have as is well known to the Department, for many years past been employed by the Government

and carried immense sums of Money without loss. There will not be many Millions per annum transferred in pursuance of this arrangement, as the deposits for Coinage at New York will in general be comparatively small.

I do not guess the amount to be as high as 50 cents per thousand including insurance is a reasonable one; and I cannot understand how any Company can, in view of the transit charges on the Rail Roads, and insurance, perform the service at 25 cts per M. The Superintendent at New York informs me that the offer he spoke of was made by Livingston & Co. He also states that a similar offer is made by Frost & Forrest of that City. He promises me a further communication on this subject which when received I will lay before you if of sufficient importance.

I may add that I am informed by Messrs Adams & Co that they are willing to give any security that the Department may require. I would prefer the Agency of this Company to any other, but this point, as well as the amount of compensation, is a subject for your consideration and to your judgment I respectfully defer.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect
Your faithful Servant
James Roosevelt
Director

Hon. P. F. Washington
Act. Sec. of the Treasury
Washington City

Mint of the United States
Philad.a 16 Oct. 1844.

Sir,

In accordance with the arrangement now between us, I have to request that you will remit to the Treasurer of the Mint, the aggregate amount paid by us to the employés engaged for your office, amounting to Eleven hundred and thirty nine $^{00}_{100}$ dollars, for which I enclose, as per order, the original pay rolls duly receipted.

I am respectfully yours

Jas. Ross Snowden
Director

Danl. D. Butterworth, Esq.
Dept. of Treasury Office
Newyork.

Mint of the United States,
Philad.a Oct. 14. 1854.

Dear Sir,

As Dr. Simpson, the Treasurer of the Mint, will be temporarily absent for a week or two on account of business at his former residence in Fayette County, I have, with his consent, appointed you to act in his place during his absence.

This appointment is made pursuant to the 4th Sect. of the General Mint Law.

Very Respectfully

Saml. Ros. Snowden
Director.

Roberts Patterson Esq
Treasurer's Clerk
U. S. Mint.

Richmond Ia Oct 4. 1854

To Superintendent of U S Mint Phil^a Pa

Dr Sir — I sent to the Mint through the American Express C^o some 31 oz of Gold Dust for Coinage the 22^d day of September last. of which I have not as yet received any word. I am anxious to know if it safely came to the Mint, and if so when it will be coined and ready for delivery. You will therefore much oblige by sending me word upon the receipt of this

Respectfully

Your Obt Servt

George McDavit

P.S.

So soon as the Dust is coined You will please send it to Richmond Wayne County Indiana by the above named Express Company

G McD

Mr Harris deposited the gold on the 26th of Sep (Receit No. 2857) paid to Harris on the 28th Sep. amt $527.45

October 18th 4.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 14th inst. The gold referred to in your letter was received at the Mint on the 26th ult. and the proceeds of the same ($27.45) were forwarded to you on the 28th of the same month by the American Express Co. at whose Office you will probably find the same.

I am. very Respectfully,
Your Obt Servt
Robt Patterson
Director

Mr Geo. McDaniel
Richmond
Wayne Co
Indiana

Mint of the United States.
Phila. Oct. 14. 1854.

Sir,

On my return from New York I wrote to the Secretary of the Treasury and informed him that in order to allow the Assay office to go into operation I deemed it necessary to give instructions to Melt, Assay and calculate the value of each deposit separately, and that when its value was ascertained, the bars should be parted and refined in mass without distinction of deposits, and asked his permission to give you the following instructions, viz:

1. To Melt, Assay and calculate the value of each deposit separately when to be designated for coinage or fine bars.

2. To pay the depositors immediately after the value is determined, in bars melted deposited, in fine bars or coin at the option of the depositor.

3. To part and refine the deposits [illegible], and in such amounts as may best be operated upon from time to time, by the Melter & Refiner.

4. To transmit to the Mint immediately after

value is determined those bars designed for coinage.

This permission I have obtained from the Department with this qualification that the last proposition (No 4) may be considered as authorized for the period of three months.

I have also brought to the attention of the Department the subject of the mode and agency of transferring the bullion between the Mint and the Assay Office.

On this point I will thank you to suggest and report to me, at your earliest convenience your views as to the manner in which these transfers can be most judiciously and properly made, in the several particulars of expense, safety and convenience.

I am, Sir Respectfully

Your Obt Servt.

S. H. Butterworth, Esq.
Supt Assay Office
New York

P.S. You will receive to-day the balance of the $500,000 in fine bars

I have your letter of the 11th inst.
The charge of 6 cents per $100 of gross value
for casting ~~into~~ bars was intended to apply
to gold. There never has been at this Mint
or any of the Branches so far as I can
learn a single instance of a demand
for fine or standard silver bars.

I will confer with the Department to-day
and propose to charge one cent per oz
Standard equal to 86 cents per $100. With
this will probably cover the actual
cost of the operation, although if we ~~take~~ took
the same rates as ~~,~~ that paid for gold it would
be nearer accurate to say 100 cents per
$100 worth, and it is as expensive to
make ~~bars~~ Silver bars as gold, and

It seems to me impolitic to
encourage the making of fine & Standard
Silver bars, and I make the same remark
as to Silver dollars, but as depositors
have a right under the law to ask for
such returns we must endeavor to supply
them. I have advised the Department to issue
a draft for $2000 which when presented
here will be paid in Silver Dollars & transmitted
to you.

Mint of the United States,
Philad.a Oct. 14. 1857.

Sir,

I must ask your indulgence for a day or two before replying to that part of your favor of the 12th inst. which relates to the mode of transferring bullion and coin between the Mint and the Assay Office.

I have given instructions to the Superintendent to act in accordance with your approval, limiting the operations of the 4th proposition to those [illegible] [illegible].

I have the honor to be
very respectfully
your obt. servant,

James Ross Snowden
Director.

Hon. P. G. Washington,
Acting Sec. of the Treasury,
Washington City.

Mint of the United States
Philad.a 19 Oct 1854.

Sir,

I am advised by the Superintendent of the Assay office at New York, that a deposit of silver for standard bars under the 11th section of the Assay Office Law, has been made with them, and he refers to me the question of the charges which are to be made for casting the same. Under the regulations which now govern the office they are authorized to charge 6 cents per $100 for casting into bars, but this rate, though not so expressed was calculated for and intended to apply only to gold bars, and is manifestly inapplicable to silver bars, which have not been provided for. It becomes my duty, therefore, under the Act of March 3, 1853 c. 96 § 7 to call your attention to this subject with a view to the regulation of the tariff on such deposits.

As it does not cost materially less, per ounce, to melt silver than gold, it will suffice, as a basis for such a tariff, to consider what is the price per ounce levied on gold bars, as equivalent to the tariff rate of 6 cents per $100. with. A fine bar (say 999/1000) with $100 should weigh say 4 11/10 ounces; so that a charge per ounce corresponding to the present charge would be say 1 11/10 cents per ounce, the equivalent of 6 cents per 4 11/10 ounces (or $100)

~~If we charge, therefore, 2 cents per ounce standard~~ on bars to be of silver we shall fall a fraction below the present rate on gold, but probably such a charge would under all circumstances be commendable to the cost, and I recommend it for adoption at the Assay Offices this Mint

I should also mention that a deposit has been

Mint of the United States
Philada 19 Oct 1854.

Sir

U. S. Assay Office, Treasurer's Department.

New York, Oct 14th 1854

Daniel Sturgeon Esq.
Treas. U.S. Mint.
Philadelphia.

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th inst. and gold bars amounting to Three Hundred and thirty five thousand, Seven hundred and sixty eight 52/100 dollars ($335.768.52) in part payment of draft for $500.000. drawn in my favor.

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servant,
John J. Cisco
Treasurer.

New York Oct 14th

Dear Sir

Allow me to call your attention to an error in the enclosed assay wherein the Gold is made to weigh more after melting than before will you explain it to us and oblige

Your Respt

Thorp & Weldon

2 Wall St

Copy

Mint U.S.
Phil. Oct. 14, 1854

Sir,

As Dr. Sturgeon the Treasurer of the Mint will be temporarily absent for a week or two on account of business at his former residence in Fayette Co., I have, with his consent, appointed Mr. Robert Patterson (a clerk in the Treasurer's office) to act in his place during his absence. This appointment is made ~~in~~ pursuant to the 4th Sect. of the General Mint law.

I have &c.

J. R. S.
Director.

Hon. Sec. of the Treasury

Mint of the United States
Philada Oct 14, 1854.

Dear Sir,

As Dr Stimpson the Treasurer of the Mint will be temporarily absent for a ~~few weeks~~ days or two on account of business at his former ~~home~~ residence in Fayette County, I have, with his Consent, appointed you to act in his place during his absence. This appointment is made pursuant to the 4th section of the general Mint Laws.

Very Respectfully

James Ross Snowden
Director.

Robert Patterson Esqr.
Treasurer's Clerk
U.S. Mint.

Mint of the U. States.
Phil^a. Oct 13, 1854

Sir,

I send you to-day, per Adams & Co's, ten bags with a locked cover for which there are two keys (which I enclose). You will please use these locked bags, as far as practicable in the manner stated in the regulations from the Department.

Perhaps as good an arrangement as could be made for the present would be to place one key in the hands of the Weigh Clerk, and the other in that of the foreman of deposits. I would be glad to hear from you on this point.

$190,000 in fine bars for you is now in the hands of Adams & Co and I am hoping to add $60,000 more.

The balance of the 500,000 we will send as soon as possible

I am Respectfully

S. R. [illegible]

[illegible]

Saml F. Butterworth Esq

Supt. Assay Office

New York.

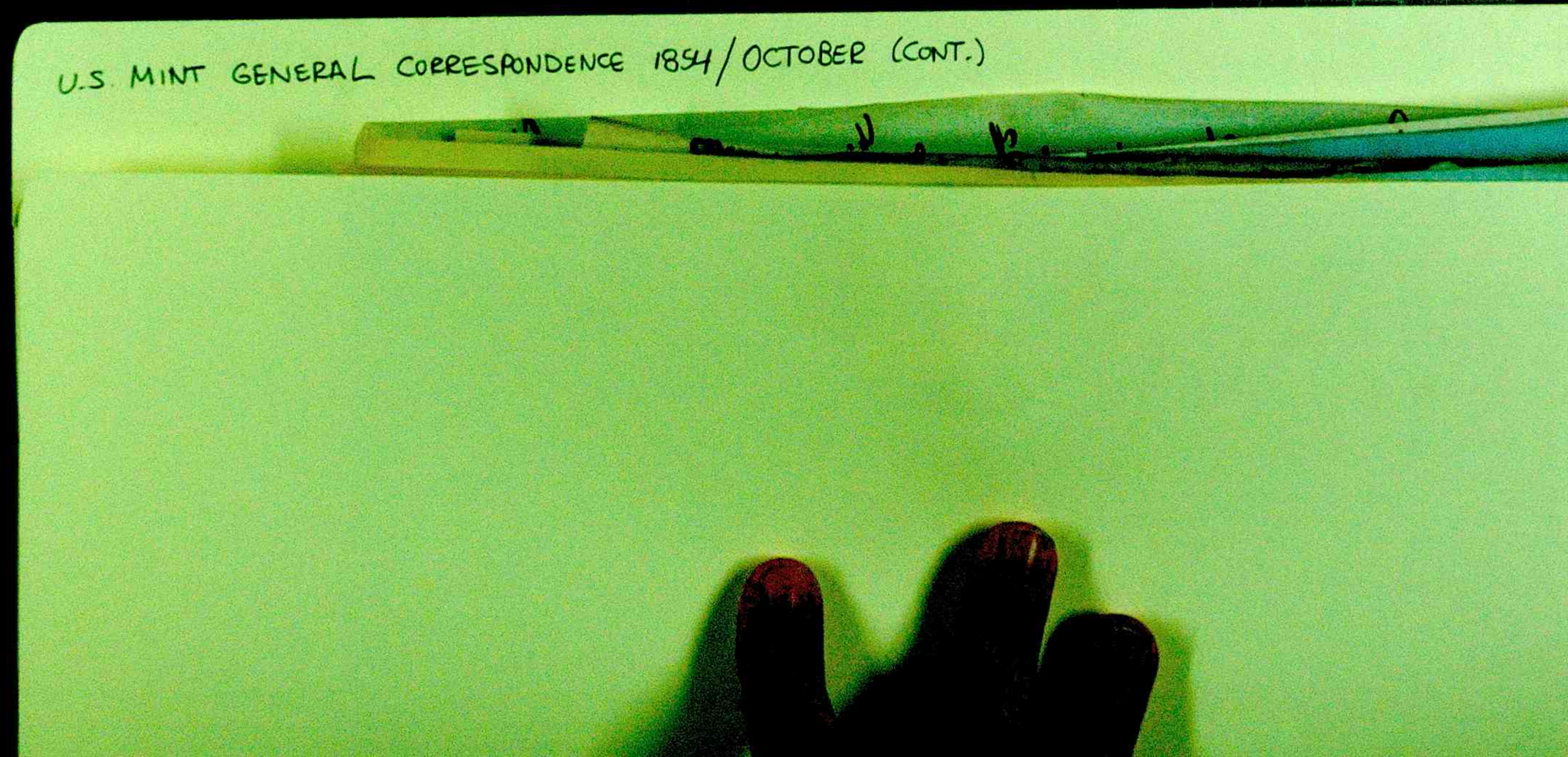
P.S. The sealed bars will be sent you as soon as they are in readiness.

NYORK XIIITH. J.P.SNOWDEN. DIRECTOR OF MINT. PHILA. BARS RECEIVED. MORE WANTED FOR TOMORROWS STEAMER. CAN YOU SEND A

E WANTED FOR TOMORROWS STEAMER. CAN YOU SEND ALL OR PART TONIGHT. S.F.BUTTERWORTH,SUPT. U.S.ASSAY OFFICE.

Brooks Can will send $250,000 in Bars to-day

U.S. MINT GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE 1854/OCTOBER (CONT.)



Mint of the United States.
Phil. Oct. 2, 1854.

Sir

I have received your letter of the 28th ult. with the enclosed draft for $500 which amount I have forwarded to you by Express to-day, in the denominations of silver coin specified in your letter.

I am, very Respectfully,

[illegible]

Geo. C. Northrop Esq.
Cashier [illegible] Bank
Racine Co.
Wisconsin.

Racine County Bank.
Racine Wisconsin 28th Sept 1854

James Ross Snowden Esq.
Director &c of
the mint of U.S. at Philadelphia

Dear Sir -

I enclose my sight draft on New York city for $500. for which please send me by express,

In 3 cent pieces say about $160-
" 5 " " " 200-
" 10 " " " 240-

I am very respectfully
Yours
Geo. C. Northrop
Cashier

Rasham Oct 2nd 54

Messrs Officers of the United States Mint. Philadelphia Sirs, I forwarded by Chaney's & Co Express, Six weeks to day, a package of gold, containing 39¼ oz, to be assayd, & the value there of in quoin, returnd at the earlyest possible moment. to David Currier, Rasham V T, but have heard nothing from it. now gentlemen I wish to know, whether it came to your hand, & whether it has been sent, back, & if not, that it should be, as soon as possible, for part of it is going to a Man, who is suffering, for it.

Please Answer immediately

yours truly in respect

David Currier

Mint of the United States.
Philad.a Oct. 2. 1804.

Sir,

In accordance with your instructions I made on the 30th ult.o an examination of the Books of Acct of the Treasurer of the Mint and found a balance stated to be in his hands of $2,250,875.48

On counting the monies on hand the Amount of the same was found to be as follows. viz Gold Coin 1,464,039.00
" Fine Bars. 36,361.61
" Silver Coin 770,246.97
Ordinary 9,627.85
Copper
Total $

The balance ~~stated to be~~ on hand of the U.S. as appeared by an examination of the Books in the Asst. Treasury ~~was stated~~ in the Mint Office amounted to $

On counting the monies on hand the Amount was found to correspond with said balances as follows.:

Mint of the United States.
Philada. Oct. 2. 1854.

Sir,

I have presented on several occasions to the Treasury department the necessity of being timely authorized to furnish your office with a sufficient amount of fine bars to pay for the fine deposits which may be required to be paid in that manner; and in compliance with your recent letter I recalled the attention of the department to the subject. I received to-day a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, dated the 30th ult. in which he says, "In reply to your letter dated the 27th inst I have to state that the department has concluded not to send fine bars to the Assay office at New York, but to authorise the payment of Coin until it can be supplied with bars of its own manufacture."

Yours, very Respectfully
James Ross Snowden
Director.

Saml. F. Butterworth Esq.
Supt. Assay Office
New York.

P.S. Your favor of the 29th ult. declining the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].
J. R. S.

Mint of the United States
Philada. Oct. 2, 1854.

Sir,

I have received your favor of the 30th. ult°
in which you state that it is designed to pay the
expenses of the proposed improvements at the Mint from
the profits of the Mint, and deem it my duty to
call your attention to what seems to be the legal
obstacle to such an arrangement.

The only profits of the Mint are those
derived from the Silver Coinage, the Seignorage on
Gold, and the Copper Coinage. The latter is nearly since
the advance in the price of Copper, reduced to almost
nothing. So that the only profits are those
derived from the Silver and Gold Coinage.
But by the act of March 4, 1853, Mint Laws
62, it is made my duty "to cause to be
paid annually into the Treasury of the United
States the profits of the Mint". And more distinctly
it is directed by the 3d sect of the act of Feb. 21, 1853,
Mint Laws 58, as to the Silver Coinage that "the profit of
said Coinage shall be, from time to time, ascertained

warrant of the director of the mint, transferred to the account of the Treasury of the United States," and as to the gold coinage that "the money arising from said charge of one half per centum shall be charged to the Treasurer of the mint and from time to time on warrant ~~from~~ of the Director of the mint, shall be transferred into the treasury of the United States."

[illegible] terms of the laws thus quoted, it becomes my evident duty to cause all the profits received at the mint to be paid over to the Treasury of the United States, precisely as it is made obligatory on the collecting officers of the Customs and the Post office as regards moneys received by them. It would therefore seem illegal to divert these profits to the payment of any part of the expenses of the mint prior to the amount having passed over to the Treasury. Whether after these profits are once [illegible] into the treasury they can be made available for any purpose except after a specific appropriation made by law, is for you to determine. It appears to me, however that the constitutional inhibition on such a use is express. It must be conceded that the

[propos]ed expenditure for the Mint, is not specifically covered by the words of the appropriation for its support, and in the absence of such appropriation, even supposing there were funds sufficient, it seems, so far as I understand the laws on this point, a prohibited exercise of discretion.

Whether in view of such circumstances and there being no immediate necessity for the proposed changes, it may not be better to postpone them, until the matter shall have been referred to the judgment and appropriation of Congress, I respectfully present to your consideration.

I have the honor to be
with great respect,
Your faithful servant,

James Ross Snowden
Director

Hon. James Guthrie,
Sec. of the Treasury
Washington City.

Mint of the United States.

Phil.a Oct 2, 1854.

Sir,

In accordance with your instructions I made on the 30th ult.o an examination of the Books of Ass.t of the Treasurer of the Mint and found a balance stated to be in his hands of $2,282,170.65

On counting the monies on hand the amount of the same was found to be as follows viz: in Gold bars of 1,464,039.00

" " Bars 36,361.61

" Silver bars 770,246.97

" Ordinary do 10,353,26

Copper 1.164.81

Total as per above stated balance ——— $2,282,170.65

The balance on hand in the Assistant Treasury of the U.S. as appeared by an examination of the Books of Ass.t at that office was $1,105,596.97

On counting the Monies on hand the amount was found to correspond with said balance as follows viz: in Gen.l Treas.y Funds $27,911.11

Post Office Monies 106.649.44

Funds for paying the Interest on Treasury Notes issued — 12,118.44

Coupons 6,210.00

Pension Monies 28,092.17

Depositors 12,4645.91

Total as per above stated balance ——— $1.105:596.97.

These results I have arrived at from a careful count and weighing of the Treasure both in the Vaults of the Mint and in those of the Assistant Treasury of the United States.

The operations of the several departments of the Mint have been performed with accuracy and to my entire satisfaction. I have made a careful and minute examination of the several departments and have the pleasure to report that it is in every particular capable of performing all the operations pertaining to coinage and the making of bars and to whatever amount the owners of bullion or the public may require. I may add that the institution was never, within my knowledge, in a condition of greater efficiency than at present.

The attendance of the officers, has in general been good and they have conducted their several departments with accuracy and promptness.

I have the honor to be, With great respect,
Your faithful Servant,

Director.

Hon. James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury
Washington City.

Treasury Department
Oct. 13. 1852.

Sir

The Treasurer U.S. has this day issued a transfer draft on the Asst. Treasurer at Philadelphia in favor of the Depository at Baltimore for $50.000 - which I will thank you send in Gold dollars.

I send enclosed two drafts of $50.000 each on the Treasurer of the Mint at Philad.a - and made payable to the order of Mess.rs Adams & Co. one in favor of the Asst. Treasurer at Charleston & one in favor of the Depository at Savannah

Be pleased to cause these sums to be sent by Adams Express in coins of various denominations

I am very Resp.y
Your Ob.t Servt
Asst Treasury

N. R. Snowden Esq
Director of the Mint
Philad.a

Mint of the United States,
Philad.a Oct. 4, 1854.

Sir,

I have your favor of yesterday enclosing two drafts of $37,000 each on the Treasurer of the Mint, one in favor of the Supt Mint at Charlotte, & one in favor of the Depositary at Dahlonega. The proceeds of which in Mint Coins will be transmitted by Adams Express as requested.

We have one supply of gold dollars in circulation & keep the Depository at Baltimore in that Coin. I will cause a large number of those Coins to be struck and hope to have a sufficient supply soon. Indeed, during the present week.

I am the bearer of the present despatch

Very respectfully

Your ob.t Servant,

Hon. Thomas Corwin
Sec.y of the Treasury
Washington City.

Samuel Root Maclintock
Director.

OFFICE, FOURTH STREET, BELOW CHESTNUT,

U. S. Branch Mint, San Francisco Philadelphia, Oct 2C 1854

FOR PRINTING: To **HOWELL EVANS,** Dr

June 12 1000 Recpt. Gold Bullion $19.00
3rd Sheet Statement, 4th ending 30.00

$39.00

Rec'd payment in full
Howell Evans

Treasury Department
October 3. 1854.

Sir

I have received your letter dated the 30th. in relation to the payment of certain Bills presented at the Mint by Messrs Adams & Co. for the transportation of Specie.

The bills for the transportation of Gold should be transmitted to this Department for payment - the freights on the Silver coins sent from the Mint to be paid from the profits of the Coinage.

I am very Resp[t].
James Guthrie
Sec Treasury.

J. Ross Snowden Esq
Director of the Mint

W. D. Oct. 3 1854

Dr. Sir

Some months since a letter containing a draft was inadvertently directed to J. J. Cisco Asst. Treasurer at Philad.a instead of N. York. The letter was returned to the Department after a long time as a dead letter. A draft for $20.0000 payable in gold dollars was issued on the Asst. Treasurer at Philad.a in favor of the Depository at Baltimore, of which I presume you were notified by the Treasurer. This draft was enclosed, it is believed in a letter addressed to the Dep. at ~~Phila~~ Baltimore, but it appears has not been received there. It is possible a similar error was made in the direction. If it be not too much trouble I will thank you to cause enquiry to be made at the P.O. in your City if there be any letter lying there from the Department addressed to the Asst. at N. York or to the Dep. at Baltimore & if so to cause it to be withdrawn & ~~forwarded~~ to me

You will not it is probable now be called in by the Dep. at Baltimore to pay it — even if ~~it~~ should come to hand — the present draft for $50.000. will be a substitute.

I am very Resp. &c. &c.

S. H. McKean [illegible]

J. Ross Snowden Esq.
Director Mint

United States Assay Office.
New York, Oct 2, 1854.

Sir,

The interior arrangements of this Office are drawing rapidly to a completion. So far as we are concerned we can be ready for business in all this week.

The regulations of the Treasury Department, however, prescribe the use of locked pans in the weigh-room. If you regard this regulation as in force, we cannot make a beginning until these pans are supplied to us. If you decide that their use may be dispensed with at the outset, you will see the necessity of forwarding to us an adequate supply of tin pans such as are now in use at the Mint.

The regulation of the 28th ult., by which this Office is required to make standard ingots, makes it necessary that we be supplied with moulds and other implements for their manufacture.

A suitable amount of stamped bars should be sent to us from the Mint, a subject about which we have already corresponded,

Sup.

and which I understand you have brought to the notice of the Department.

Whether the Passage and Melting Process should have an opportunity to make an experimental beginning in order to test their Apparatus and Machinery, or whether they shall undertake at the outset the full business of the Office, is a matter which you are best able to determine.

With this statement of the condition of this Office, I await your instructions as to the time and manner of commencing our operations.

Very respectfully,
Your Ob. Servt.
Sam. F. Butterworth
Supt

Col. J. Ross Snowden,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia.

and which I understand you have brought to the notice of the Department.

Whether the Assayer and Melter & Refiner should have an opportunity to make an experimental beginning in order to test their apparatus and machinery, or whether they shall undertake at the outset the full business of the office, is a matter which you are best able to determine.

With this statement of the condition of this Office, I await your instructions as to the time and manner of commencing our operations.

Very respectfully,
Your obt. servt.
Sam. F. Butterworth
Supt

Col. J. Ross Snowden,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia.

New York Oct 1st 54,

Samuel F. Butterworth Esqr
Dear Sir

It is with great reluctance that I am necessitated to withdraw my services from the U S Assay Office.

The following will give you my just reason for doing so viz: "Col Snowden and Proffr James C. Booth of the Mint at Philada" as far "as I understand promised that my pay should be augmented to $2 50/100 per diem "from the date of my arrival at this City" under that promise I came here, but it appears that I am only to get $2.40/100 while some of those men who are not acquainted with the practical part of the business gets 2 50/100, for what reason I am at a loss to know, I assure you sir that amt. of wages would not support myself and family here. In conclusion I beg leave to inform you that I have been in the seperating department of the Mint at Philada between 3 & four years and am considered a practical workman. I would respectfully request that my salary would be augmented

New York Oct 1st/54

Samuel F. Buttenworth Esq.

Dear Sir

It is with great reluctance that I am necessitated to withdraw my Services from the U. S. Assay Office.

The following will give you my just reason for doing so viz. Col. Mordecai Cook Prof. Jam. C. Booth of the Mint at Phila. "as far as I understand promised that my pay should be augmented to $ 2 50/100 per diem from the date of my arrival at this City" under that promise I came here but it appears that I am only to get $ 2.40 per while some of those men who are not acquainted with the practical part of the business get 2 50/100 for what reason I am at a loss to know, I Assure you Sir that amt. of wages would not support myself and family here. In conclusion I beg leave to inform you that I have been in the Separating department of the Mint at Phila. between 3 & four years and am considered a practical workman. I would respectfully request that my salary would be augmented to $3 per diem from the first inst.

An answer from the receipt of this would much oblige

Yours Truly
[illegible] Beltran

UNITED STATES ASSAY OFFICE.

Oct 3d 1854

UNITED STATES ASSAY OFFICE.

New York, Oct 3d 1854

Sir

One of the workmen sent to this office from the Mint (Geo. W. Bertram) has addressed to me the enclosed letter, you will see that he demands $3 per day which I of course refused & he has returned to Phila, before he left I informed him that I proposed to transfer him to the Melting room and unred fix his pay at $2.50 per day - So long as these Phila workmen suppose that they are at pleasure active to their former place in the Mint, there will be no end of their attempts to obtain higher wages than they are entitled to here, I hope you will not recompley any that quit the service, and will so inform me by letter, otherwise I shall have trouble with them - we shall want a man to supply the place intended for Mr Bertram in the Melting Depart & I hope you can send us one who is capable & willing to work for $2.50 per day - when shall I have the pleasure of seeing you here?

Hon Dr Rob J Snowden
Director

Yours Resp
Chas. T. Butterworth
Sup.

U. S. Assay Office.
New York, Oct. 3. 1854

Sir,

The enclosed receipt with an order endorsed for 100 casks Zinc, was received from you some time since. It needs the endorsement of Messrs. A. Potter & Co. before we can get the Zinc. Will you procure this endorsement & return the receipt to me as soon as possible?

Very respectfully,
S. J. Butterworth, Supt.
per G. F. Downing.

Col. J. Ross Snowden,
Director of the Mint.

Director of the Mint.

...say Office.
... Oct. 3, 1854.

...2d, I am informed
...cluded not to
... Office at New
...the payment of
...pplied with bars

...ullion will be de-
...tended as it would
... two weeks, when
... the Mint in two
... regulations of the
...quires that all
...ins for coinage,
...d negots and
...eave you to infer
...x Office is likely
...own manufacture.
...fully,
...m. F. Butterworth
Supt.

United States Assay Office.
New York, Oct. 3, 1854.

Sir,

By your letter of the 2d, I am informed that "the Department has concluded not to send fine bars to the Assay Office at New York, but to authorize the payment of coin until it can be supplied with bars of its own manufacture".

It is very certain that no bullion will be deposited here for fine bars attended as it would be by a delay of ten days or two weeks, when returns could be received from the Mint in two or three days. And as the regulations of the Department of Sept. 28th requires that all bullion deposited at this office for coinage, shall be made into standard ingots and sent to the Mint, I leave you to infer how soon the New York Assay Office is likely to have fine bars "of its own manufacture".

Very respectfully,
Sam. R. Butterworth
Supt.

Col. J. Ross Snowden,
Director of the Mint.

Mint of the United States.
Phil. Oct. 4. 1834.

Sir

I have your several favors of the 2nd & 3d inst., which I will answer for convenience sake numerically as follows:

1st The regulations from the Treasury Department as to the locked panels will be inoperative until you receive a supply, which have been ordered but not yet finished. For your immediate use I will send you to-day per Adams & Co. Express, of the kind we use here, 10 large size panels, 25 medium size and 50 small ones, and 25 copper linen deposit boxes.

2. The standard ingots may be prepared from the same moulds that you may use for fine bars, or deposit bar moulds. If you are not supplied with a sufficient number of these moulds we can spare some of those which are in use here. The form in which they are cast is not material because when they come here for coinage they will be re-melted and assayed.

3. I do not anticipate that any difficulty will be experienced by your Assayer and Melter

Refiner in their first operations. But if they desire to make an experimental beginning, & test their apparatus and machinery, they are fully authorized to do so. You can supply the bullion for that purpose in such manner as you may consider expedient. I would suggest your employing a quantity of your fine silver with a mixture of 10 pr ct. silver coin, instead of gold, - to melt it in the deposit furnace, to assay it, granulate, part, precipitate, reduce prob &c. This will test all of your arrangements except the assay of gold, for which gold coin and other commercial gold may be employed. The use of silver instead of gold prevents any serious loss, if waste should occur. I may also suggest that it would be convenient and proper for your Assayer to re-assay the bars of fine silver sent from the Mint to your office. In a matter of high accountability the courtesy which takes for granted is dispensed with, and although they have been assayed here, it is eminently proper that they should be re-assayed at your Office before using them in your regular and business operations.

4. I can only express my regret that I am not authorized to send you a quantity of fine bars to pay your first deposits.

5. I have procured the endorsement of Messrs. [illegible] & Co. and re-endorse the order for the [illegible].

6. I fully approve your action in respect to George W. [illegible]. He received a per diem of $1.50 here, and agreeably to the arrangement we made, he was to receive an advance of 50 cents per diem at New York. Your offer therefore of $2.50 was as much and more than he had a right to expect. I consider the workmen detailed for duty in your office as discharged from the Mint, and I shall certainly not re-employ them here, if they fail to perform their engagement with you.

I have requested the workmen not already with you to go on by tomorrow (5th inst.) but I learn that a few will not be able to report themselves to you until the beginning of the next week.

I am, Very Respectfully, Your Obedient Servant,

[illegible signature]

J. P. [illegible] Esq.
Supt. Assay Office N.Y.

P.S. I have addressed the Secretary
of the Treasury on the subject of your
objections to the regulations prescribed by the
Department, and hope to have his reply to morrow
I am authorized to make some modifications of them
and I earnestly trust that I shall be permitted
to make further ones in accordance with the
excellent suggestions contained in your
letter. I will endeavor to visit you this
Morn.

Treasury Department.
October 4th 1834.

Sir. I have received your letter of the 1st instant, inclosing copies of letters from the Melter and Refiner at Philadelphia and the Superintendent of the Assay office at New York, upon the subject of the regulations prepared with the approbation of the President, for the government of the Mint and its subordinate Institutions.

The frauds committed on the Mint and the report of its examination made by the experienced and intelligent gentleman I had sent to Philadelphia for that purpose, induced the conviction that its rules and administration required amendment, not only with a view to the interest and safety of the United States, but in order to restore the Institution to public confidence.

The regulations passed chiefly upon the facts stated, and opinions expressed by Messrs. Smith and Picket had three objects in view.

1st The greater security of the treasure in its various forms, processes and condi-

tions

tion. 2. greater attendance and accountability on the part of the officers and servants of the Mint; and, 3. greater economy in the expenses of management.

It was supposed when the regulations were sent that there might be some portions which, from want of experimental knowledge of some of the minutiæ of the many and various operations and processes required in the Mint, might be inapplicable, inexpedient, or even impracticable, and which might be modified without impairing their general scope and spirit. You have from time to time suggested difficulties of this kind, - to all of which, I have readily assented and authorized the required modification.

It would have been more desirable if you had taken such counsel as you might have deemed necessary, and have come to a satisfactory conclusion to your own mind in respect to all the details in question involved in the regulations.

To accomplish this object now, I will thank you to prepare, as soon as may be, a set of regulations in lieu of those transmitted, preserving the general spirit of the latter, and making such modifications in the details as you may find necessary for their convenient practicable operation, and transmit the same for the approval of the President.

I do not think it necessary to reply to the objections of the Superintendent of the Assay office, x some of which are mere matters of construction and authority, and others have been anticipated by modifications already authorized. When the regulations are put in such form as to be suitable and proper for the Mint, you will, of course, have no difficulty in extending their operation to the Branches.

I am very respectfully

James Guthrie

Secy. of the Treasury.

J. R. Snowden, Esq,

Director of U. S. Mint.

Philadelphia Pa

Treasury Department
October 4. 1852.

Sir

I have received your letter dated the 29th ultimo enclosing a report from Professor Booth in explanation of the Bills of Messrs Welling & Rexford and Galt - And I have to remark that altho there is an evident discrepancy and want of reliability in the figures current yet enough is observed to shew that the Government was charged too much for Galt for purchases in such large quantities.

The Department is of the opinion, that as the Mint is a large manufactory and is furnished with the best Mechanics, that one of them might be employed to do the jobbing and the lead and other materials required be purchased at the Market price.

I am very Resp.
Jas. Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury

J. Ross. Engraver &c
Director of Mint
Phila.

UNITED STATES ASSAY OFFICE,

New York, Oct. 14, 1854.

Sir,

I send enclosed my check in your favor for $110, to pay bill of M. Dougherty transmitted by you a few days since. I presume any of your Banks will cash it with your endorsement.

You sent to me, some weeks since, certain duplicate vouchers, for payments made by you for Asc. of this Office, amounting to $7,282.34 and I have received the impression that the funds in your hands were exhausted. By a Memorandum from Washington of amounts drawn from the Appropriation of $100,000, I see that you are charged with $7,602.10. Did you not omit to send me all your vouchers? — I have no official concern in this Asc., but ask this information for Mr. Dunning who has to attend to it for Capt. Bowman, the Superintending Architect.

Very respectfully

Sam. F. Butterworth

Sec'y

Col. J. Ros. Snowden,

Director of the Mint.

Phila 3 Oct. 1854

Dear sir

I have carefully examined the Regulations which you transmitted to me, & have recently endeavored faithfully to carry them out. Their practical working leads me to make the following remarks upon them, which I have forborne to do until I had tested them.

The Spirit of the Regulations is excellent, as it designs to secure faithful performance of duty, subordination to proper authority, & the due guarding of bullion during the time of its transit through the Mint. But there are defects in the literal interpretation of the Regns, necessarily arising from want of detailed knowledge in relation to the operations of the Mint. Moreover, many of the Regns have been in operation previous to their recent publication, & some of them for many years.

I have numbered the Regns you transmitted to me, & reply to or remark upon them by the same numbers.

1. I believe the Regular business hours for officers are considered at present to be 8 A.M. to 3 P.M. From the very nature of my operations, the times req[illegible] my attention are irregular. I am present before 7 A.M. & after leaving for breakfast return about 10, & then remain as long as anything is to be done. If it were my duty to attend to the Deposite Melting Room I might be called upon to attend from 5 A.M. to 5 P.M, or when there is over-work ~~to~~ even to 9 P.M. Surely the Spirit of this Regulation is simply to ensure such attendance of Officers, as will secure the most perfect fulfilment of their duties, & that the Director through his Officers secure similar

services of the workmen under their charge.

14. In order to attain the last point, I have kept a monthly roll of the attendance of my workmen since the Spring of 1850, & that roll was based upon a daily roll kept by my several foremen.

15. This reg^n has always been faithfully kept in my Dep^t, so that complaint has sometimes been made of the men being over-worked, because they were short-handed.

13. That faithful & diligent workmen should be duly compensated for over-work is just, & has been our constant practice. The foremen receive high wages but no extra-time, so that it may not be their interest to keep the men beyond proper hours. I understand the last clause to allude to absentees without authority, for late attendance, or for workmen leaving during working times without permission. If men can finish their work, by great industry & labor, within the legal times of work, it would be both unjust & very inexpedient to deduct from their wages or oblige them to remain. It is well known that piece-work is a great spur to industry, & much of our work is of such a character. To oblige them to remain after work completed would induce habits of idleness & would not be likely to induce industry while at work. To deduct wages for their having worked so hard as to complete a good day's work in shorter time than usual is unjust, & would not certainly lead them in future to work very actively. But the inexpediency of deduction is still greater. If wages were deducted, because men get through their allotted task in a shorter time than that looked for, I am well satisfied that we could not obtain the same class of workmen, which we have hitherto had, & I do not

Mint of the United States
Philadelphia Dec 3 1850

J. R. Snowden Esq
Director
U. S. Mint

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think I could consent to my sureties undergoing the hazard of introducing such men, as I believe the system of deduction would infallibly lead to. — I hold it to be an important principle to give men the fullest wages & make their situation a very desirable one, in order to secure competent, & trustworthy workmen. I think that workmen in the Mint should receive 10 @ 20 pr. ct. above what they could get outside of the Institution, & that deduction should only be administered by way of punishment. Easy circumstances diminish temptation.

5, 6, 7, 8, 9. The simultaneous performance of 3 & 4 duties renders the literal interpretation of portions of these Regns impracticable. At one & the same moment we have bullion deposited, other deposites melted, - others granulated, - others refining, - others melting in the refined state, &c, &c. To carry out the Regns fully would absolutely require the appointment of three or four apsistants. The Spirit of these regulations (& in many cases the letter) has already been carried out. — The 7th. Regn has been in operation for some time, & rather more complete than the it is here set forth, because the percentage loss of every deposite is calculated.

15. Has always been faithfully performed since I have been in office, & I know not how long before.

16. It is unnecessary to allude further to the Iron chests as we are about carrying a plan, more practicable, to effect the same object.

Very Respectfully yours
J. C. Booth
Melter & Refiner

J. R. Snowden Esq
Director
U. S. Mint

Mint of the United States.
Philada Oct 3, 1804.

Sir.

I present for your consideration a letter from Mr Pollock the Superintendent of the Assay Office at New York respecting the regulations heretofore presented by the Department.

I will inform the Superintendent that in regard to the iron chests, you have authorized a modification so as to require him to provide these chests only in such cases where it is practicable and convenient, or to adopt some method of securing the bullion during the day, equally efficient. And that you have also permitted the insertion of the word "employs" so far as the Treasurers duty is connected with the melting of deposits. I will also explain that you have modified the regulations so as to prevent any hindering of the accounts of the Assistant Treasury and the Assay Office.

One of the points referred to by the Superintendent, namely, the form of the bullion receipt was presented in my letter of the 23d ult.o in which

I have aimed it to show that it is inexpedient to make any change in that respect.

Without recalling the other objections presented by the Superintendent, I may make the general remark that I consider them all well taken and entitled to receive a careful consideration.

I have the honor to be
With great respect
Your faithful Servant
James Ross Snowden
Director

Hon. James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury
Washington City.

P.S. Since the foregoing letter was written by my clerk, I have received a communication from the Melter & Refiner of the Mint, respecting some of the points in question. A copy of which I enclose herewith.

J. R. S.

Mint of the United States.
Philada. Oct. 5, 1854.

Dear Sir,

Mr. De Forrest, who has heretofore been employed in the Mint in calculating and preparing the fine bars, has expressed a wish to take charge of that duty in the Assay Office, if it meets with your sanction. In the event of your not having made any other arrangement, I think it would be advantageous to your Institution to have the services of his knowledge and experience in that branch of business. I, the more readily make this suggestion, at his request, from the fact that I anticipate a great reduction of work with us in the demand for bars when your office is in full operation, and we can then well spare his services in that particular. Mr. De Forrest possesses an excellent capacity and is accurate, faithful and attentive; and when not actually employed in the particular duty assigned him is of great service in other duties of a clerical character, where the other clerks are pressed in the discharge of their respective duties.

I may add that even if you have made other arrangements for the duty referred to, it might be well for Mr. De Forrest to be detailed to your office for a few weeks in order to give the aid of his experience acquired here, to which arrangement, I will, if you desire, cheerfully accede.

I am, Yours Respectfully,
James Ross Snowden
Director

Saml. F. Patterson Esq.
Supt. Assay Office, New York.

Mint of the United States.
Philada Oct 6, 1854.

Sir

I had, previous to the receipt of your favor of the 29th ult: respecting the regulations prescribed by the Treasury Department, been authorized to modify them in the following particulars:

1. As to the "iron chests"; that these chests should be provided in such cases where it is practicable and convenient, and that when such chests were not used some other method of securing the bullion, during the day, equally as efficient should be adopted.

2. That the word "employé" may be inserted in the regulations so far as the Treasurer's duty is connected with the melting of deposits.

3. That the regulations may be so modified as to prevent any blending of the accounts of the Assistant Treasury and the Assay Office proper.

I have to-day received a reply from the Department to my letter enclosing your objections to the regulations in question. I am now authorized to prepare a set of regulations in lieu of those transmitted, preserving the general spirit of the latter, and making such modifications in the details as I may find necessary for their common practical operation, which when prepared I will transmit to the President of the United States for his approval.

This duty I will immediately enter upon; in the meantime and until you receive further instructions you will endeavor to carry out the spirit of these regulations as far as may be practicable.

The instructions forwarded to you on the 28th ult. will be regarded as a judicious course of business in your office.

I am, Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.

Samuel F. Butterworth Esq.
Supt. Asiatic Affairs &c &c &c

UNITED STATES ASSAY OFFICE,

New York, Oct 5 1854

Dr Sir

As we are about to commence operations I am desirous of displaying the national flag; you will much oblige me if you will procure one from the War Depart. — I enclose a letter to the Secy of the Treasy in relation to an increase of watchmen — which please forward.

With great respect,

Your Ob Servt,

Sam. F. Butterworth

Supt.

Hon.

Jas. Ross Snowden

Director &c

Mint of the United States.
Phila, Oct 8, 1834.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 4th inst with the enclosure stated.

I have received from the Secretary of the Treasury $7,602.10 on Account of your Office and have paid bills against the same amounting to $7,603.74 being $1.64 more than I have received.

As I am about to settle this account with the Department I will thank you to return the vouchers sent to you some few weeks since, which were only a part of those exhibiting the payment of the above sum and were for your information and not transmitted to your Office for settlement with the Department.

I enclose a few small bills which have lately been presented to me for payment.

I am, very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
R. M. Patterson
Director.

S. T. Poultney, Esq.
Supt. Oddsay Office
Phila.

Mint of the United States.
Philad.a Oct. 5, 1853.

Dear Sir,

I received your favor of the 28th ult. and a copy of your valuable Almanac for 1853 for which please accept my thanks. Yesterday I sent you a copy of our Mint Circular which I thought might be useful to you, and have now the pleasure of enclosing a statement of the coinage of 1852 and the first half of 1853 and some tables relative to the California gold, as requested by you.

I will be happy at any time to give you any information in my power which you may request.

I am very respectfully
Yr. obt. Servt.
James Ross Snowden

I. Smith Homans Esq
No. 70, Wall St.
New York

Separating or parting agreement.

Copy Receipt for Chas Curtis

Jos. N. Curtis

Mint of the United States.
Philad.a Oct. 6. 1854.

Sir,

I enclose a letter from the Superintendent of the Assay Office, to which I have to ask your early attention.

I have the honor to be
with great respect
Your faithful servant,
James Ross Snowden
Director

Hon. James Guthrie,
Sec. of the Treasury
Washington City.

P.S. To Col. Washington.

The Supt. at New York has asked me to supply a national flag for his office. I suppose they have flags in New York belonging to the War department, if so, will you be so kind as to procure an order for one on the Quarter Master. Those we use at the Mint were procured thro' in that way, on our paying the cost of the material &c. I think. I had the pleasure of a brief visit from Mr. Guthrie this morning.

Yours truly,
J.R.S.

Mint of the United States.
Philad.a Oct 6, 1854.

Sir,

I have your favor of the 3d inst enclosing check for $2000 which amount has been returned to you by Adams & Co. Express in the denominations of Gold Coin specified in your letter

Mint of the United States,
Philada. Oct. 6. 1854.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge your letter of the 4th inst. in which you request me to prepare and submit for the approval of the President, a set of regulations in lieu of those heretofore transmitted by the Department. To this duty I will give my early and careful attention and trust that I shall be enabled to prepare such as will meet the approval of your judgment.

I have the honor to be,
with great respect,
Your faithful servant,

James Ross Snowden
Director

Hon. James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury,
Washington City.

4615.17
216.62
262.90
2509.05
7.608.74
1.64
7,602,10

Mint of the United States.
Philad.a Oct. 6. 1836.

Sir,

Your letter of the 3d inst enclosing a Check for $2000 has been received and the Amount returned to you per Adams & Co. Express in the denominations of Coin specified in your letter.

Very Respectfully

Director.

Charles Peck, Jr, Esq.
Cash. Franklin Bank of Ohio &c.
Franklin Mills
Ohio

Taunton Oct. 9 1854

Danl. Stinson Esq.

Treas: U.S. Mint.

Dear Sir.

We annex bill of 10 kegs planchets, forwarded by Express —

We have forwarded all we could to the present time, since receiving your advice —

Should you have orders for Copper Coin that you cannot supply, during the temporary stoppage of your machines, we have a good stock with Millet.. &c., on which you are at liberty to draw.

If agreeable we should like to receive money for the recent shipments —

Yours.

Very Respy

Crocker Bros. & Co.

Treasury Department
First Auditor's Office
October 8th 1854

Asa Dent Esqr
Treasurer & Mint
Philadelphia Pa

Sir:

Your Copper & ordinary Expense
Accounts for the 3d Quarter 1854 are received.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt

L. W. Mason
Acting Auditor

Lawton Oct 6. 1834.

Dan'l Stimpson Esq.

Treas. U. S. Mint.

Sir.

We inclose bill of 10 lbs cut planchets to be forwarded by Steamer via Boston, to leave tomorrow —

We shall forward another by early next week by Express —

I remain

Yours Very Respy

Proctor Bro. & Co.

Mint of the United States.
Philad.a Oct. 7. 1854.

My dear Sir,

The question has arisen whether the Regulation making Tuesday next a holiday at the Mint extends to the adjusting department. The C. Coiner has represented to me that the Treasurer is in want of Gold Dollars & would like to have the work in the adjusting department go on on that day, but thinks he cannot require those employees in ~~that adjus~~ department to stay if the other Employe's are not on duty. It would cause no great inconvenience I think to let all the employe's of the Mint have the benefit of the Regulation making it a holiday. As you will not receive this until Monday morning You will please telegraph Your wishes on this subject by Monday M.

Nothing of particular importance has transpired at the Mint since You left. We have a letter from P. G. Washington in reference

to the Humid Assay apparatus for
San Francisco B. Mint. He simply incloses
letter of mine & asks whether you ordered it.

The Agent of L. P. Morris & Co has
called again in reference to their bill
against the Assay Office N.Y. & presses
for early payment.

I close this note in
haste to be in time for P.M. mail &
hope to hear from you by Monday morn

always Truly Your Friend
& obedient Servant
A. B. Lindesman

Hon. J. R. Snowden.

P.S. Jacobs has been over
you know
to see an errand for Mrs Snowden & reports
your family well
H. B. L.

Phil. Oct 9. 1854

J. R. Snowden Esq

t be sent until
ecutary telegraphs

Lindesman

The Magnetic Telegraph Company,

MORSE LINE,

BETWEEN

New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington,

Connecting with the Southern, Western, Eastern and Northern Lines of Morse's Telegraphs.

TO THE TELEGRAPHING PUBLIC.

Please write plainly; answer quickly; PREPAY; use no figures except dates—they cost more; give name, street, and number of the party addressed, to insure prompt delivery; also, your own address under your signature; no charge for address and signature. The above is for your safety as well as our convenience.

OFFICE IN PHILADELPHIA, No. 98 Chesnut Street, two doors above Third.

Offices in NEW YORK.....No. 5 Hanover Street, and Irving House, Broadway.
" WILMINGTON.....Glazier's Building, Corner of Third and Market Streets.
" BALTIMORE.....Sun Iron Building, Corner of Baltimore and South Streets.
" WASHINGTON.....National Hotel, Pennsylvania Avenue, Corner of Sixth Street.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Dated Washington Oct 9 1854

Rec'd, Philadelphia Oct 9 1854, 11 o'clock, 3 min. A M.

To J. R. Snowden
Director Mint

Sir —

A draft will be sent by this mail to the Treasurer Assay Office N. York for the transfer of Five hundred thousand dollars in Gold bars from the Mint. Be pleased to send the bars without waiting for the draft

P. G. Washington
Asst Sec Treasury

11/23 H Ba

Phil. Oct 9. 1854.

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Jos Snowden
Director.

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Phil oct 9. 1854

J R Snowden Esq
Assay office
N York

Bars cannot be sent until the coming arrival paid off — Secretary telegraphs that a draft has been mailed.

H R Linderman

Phil, Oct 9. 1854.

P G Washington Esq.
Act. Secretary of the Treasury

The last arrival near two millions will be brought to the Mint, and all the bars available will be required to pay depositors. The amount for New York will be sent over in time for the commencement of their operations.

James Ross Snowden
Director.
Pr. H R Linderman

Director Clerk
to
The Director at N. York

as to Work at the Mint
on Tuesday 10th Oct
being holiday

Oct 7. 1854

10 College Place
Malcom
Snowden

Mint of the United States.
Philada Oct 9, 1854.

Sir,

In conformity with the act of March 3d 1853, I present to you a quarterly statement of the expenditures of the Mint for the quarter ending Sept. 30, 1854.

Expenditures of the Mint 3d Q. 1854.

Incidental & contingent Expenses	$6,095.58
Wages of Workmen	24,353.14
Salaries of Officers & Clerks	1,776.00
Total	$32,224.72.

I have the honor to be,
with great respect
Your faithful Servant
James Ross Snowden, Director
By. Wm. Kneass

Hon. Ply. Washington
Act. Sec. of the Treasury
Washington City.

United States Assay Office.

New York, Oct. 9, 1854.

Sir,

I have this day given public notice that this Office is ready for the reception of deposits of Gold & Silver Bullion. A copy of the notice is herewith enclosed.

By the 11th Sect. of the act of March 4, 1853, it is required that all bullion, deposited at this Office for coinage, "shall, as soon as assayed and its net value certified, be transferred to the Mint of the United States, under such directions as shall be made by the Secretary of the Treasury, and at the expense of the Contingent Fund of the Mint, and shall there be coined".

In the absence of any instructions to the contrary, I should have deemed the requirement of this part of the 11th Sect. to be fully met by setting aside such of our deposits as were intended for coinage, (after the first melting preliminary to their assay,) and then transmitting them to the Mint by such means as the Secretary of the Treasury should prescribe.

The regulation of the Department of Sept. 25th, however, directs that these deposits shall be first refined & converted into standard ingots at this Office, and be then transmitted for immediate coinage at the Mint.

I need not advert to the impossibility of complying with this regulation and the requirement of the Act above quoted. In the process of parting and refining the identity of deposits is necessarily lost. Even if refined separately, (which would be impracticable,) the silver parted from a gold deposit could not be distinguished from the fine silver added to it before granulation. And yet the Act requires that "All gold or silver bullion or foreign coin, intended by the depositor to be converted into the coins of the United States, shall, as soon as assayed and its net value certified, be transferred to the Mint &c." — If the regulation referred to be carried out the deposits intended for coinage could not be transferred to the Mint, but only their equivalent in standard metal.

However this point may be ultimately decided, I trust that at the commencement of our operations we may be authorized to transmit the unparted ingots as they are cast in the "Shoe moulds" of the Deposit Melting room. This would relieve us from a part of the heavy pressure which is likely to come upon our refinery at the outset.

In regard to the mode of transmission from this Office to the Mint, & vice versa, I shall conform to such directions as the Department shall prescribe.

Very respectfully,
Your obt. Servt.
Sam'l H. Butterworth
Supt.

Col. J. Ross Snowden,
Director of the Mint.

United States Assay Office.

New York, Oct 9 1854

This Office will be open for business on and after this day.

Deposits of Gold & Silver Bullion will be received on the same terms as at the Mint.

Payment for deposits will be made either in Stamped Bars, in Coins, or in Certificates, at the Option of the owners, to be expressed at the time of making their deposits.

Silver purchases are not made at this Office.

For the present it will be impossible to admit Visitors to witness the operations of the Office.

(Signed) Sam F. Butterworth,
Superintendent.

Treasury Department
Oct. 9. 1854.

Sir

I advised you by Telegraph this Morning, that a Transfer Draft had been issued on the Treasurer of the Mint at Philad.a in favor of the Superintendent of the assay office at N. York for $ 500.0000.- payable in Gold Bars - and requesting you to cause the Bars to be sent by the first opportunity without waiting for the Draft, which will go this afternoon by Mail

I am very Resp.y
P. F. Washington
Act. Sec. Treasury.

J. R. Snowden Esq
Director of the Mint
Philad.a

P. S. Upon despatch - Please send the Bars when convenient.

October 6th 4

Sir,

The Superintendant of the stamp office at New York requested the Secretary to write to the Office of Mr. Delafonst for the purpose of Calculating and stamping five Cards, a service which he could not perform at the Moment. He was therefore nearly ready to send Cards, when I received from the Secretary, & accordingly sent him the Cards as requested. what now, at the request of Mr. Pettigrew the Superintendant, I have to ask your consideration to the employment of Mr. Delafonst for the purpose stated.

I write in the same circumstance with the stamp Office that Lewis Hoffman Esq., a clerk in the Office of the Assistant Treasurer at New York, was designated for the duty in question, and Mr. Hoffman visited the Mint & even & made himself familiar with the routine of weighing and stamping bars. but I have no doubt that the temporary employment of Mr. Delafonst will be found suitable.

He can well dispense with his services here at the Mint; & that he can perform the employed temporarily or permanently at New York if required.

As the duty of calculating and stamping bars

Hon. Secy. for Ireland.
&c. &c. &c. Treasury
Whitehall

Mint of the United States
Philada. Oct 7 1854.

Sir,

I received your telegraphic dispatch of to day stating that a draft had been made on the treasurer of the Assay Office at New York for the transfer of $500,000 in gold bars from the Mint and requesting the bars to be sent without waiting for the draft, to which I replied by telegraph as per copy. The last arrival near two millions will be brought to the Mint, and all the bars available will be required to pay depositors. The amount for New York will be sent over in time for the commencement of their operations. I presume your dispatch was predicated on the supposition that the present arrival would be deposited at the Assay Office at New York and that the bars would be required to pay depositors at that Office. We have intelligence from the Director now at New York, that the bullion will be lost here and as we have on hand only $[illegible] in fine bars, we could not now spare any without interfering with our usual prompt payments to depositors. The amount of the draft can be sent to the Assay Office during the interval between the present and next

Mint of the United States
Philada. Oct. 9. 1854.

Sir,

The following articles have been forwarded to you by Adams & Co's Exp. viz:

10 Setts of Glasses
35 Large tin pans
70 Small do
25 Copper lined boxes
20 boxes containing porcelain &c

I enclose a Bill of Walter Cresson against your office, also one of Ed A. Summers.

I am, very respectfully,
James Ross Snowden
Director
pr H.R. Linderman

Jno. T. [illegible], Esq.
Supt. Assay Office
N. York.

Boston Oct. 7 1850

Dear Sir,

Nearly a year since I forwarded to you per Adams & Co a package containing six or more Designs for Silver coinage —

Presuming they were not of sufficient merit to receive your attention or adoption, may I ask in case they have been procured if you will have the kindness to forward them to me as early as it may suit your convenience, by Mail —

With much respect I am
Your my ob. Servant

James H. Cochrane
No. 76 State St
Boston

To Messrs Ed. Mint
Phila.

Copy.

Quartermaster General's office -
Washington, October 10. 1854

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date, enquiring if the Supt. of the U.S. Assay Office in New York can be supplied by the Quartermaster in that City with a National Flag; and if so, requesting that it may be done -

The Quartermaster in New York has no flags in his charge, but I have instructed Major Genl. Crossman, Quartermaster in Philadelphia, to turn over to the Supt. of the Assay Office in N.Y. upon his application, and upon payment of the cost thereof, either a "Garrison" or "Storm" Flag" as he may require. The Garrison Flag is about 40 feet fly by 20 hoist, and costs $34 32/100. The Storm flag is one third the size of the Garrison, and costs $11. 76/100.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
Thos Jesup
Quartermaster General

Peter G. Washington Esq
Actg Secy of the Treasury
Washington City -

Treasury Department
Oct. 18. 1854

Sir:

I transmit, herewith, for your information ~~[illegible]~~, a copy of a letter addressed to this Department, under date of the 10th inst. by Genl. Jesup, Quartermaster General, stating that Major Crosman, the U.S. Quartermaster in Philadelphia, has been directed to furnish, on demand and payment of the cost thereof, either a Garrison or Storm Flag (the dimensions and cost of each being given) for the use of the Assay office in New York. You will please make the necessary application to Major Crosman and you are hereby authorized to purchase the flag which you deems most suitable and transmit the same to the Superintendent of the Assay Office, N.Y. and refer to this letter by date as your authority for so doing —

I am Very Respectfully
H. Humphreys
Actg Secretary of the Treasury

Robt Snowden Esq.
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia Pa —

Mint of the United States.
Philada: Oct. 11, 1850.

Sir,

I deemed it important to visit the Assay Office at New York, to make which visit I had the pleasure of your verbal approval - and accordingly I went there on Friday last and returned yesterday. My presence was useful in regard to several points connected with the business of that Office; and at my request the announcement was made on the 9th inst that the Office was ready to receive deposits.

Whilst at New York the Superintendent placed in my hands a letter on the subject of the transmission to the Mint of the bullion intended for coinage - a copy of which I enclose. The Treasurer of the Assay Office is also particularly desirous of being instructed as to the agents he shall employ for that purpose.

In order to allow the Assay Office to go into operation I deemed it necessary to give instructions to the Superintendent to melt, assay and calculate the value of each deposit separately, and that when its value is thus ascertained - which can be done in this way more accurately than by any other method -

[illegible] the assay [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] and refined in mass without distinction of deposit.

Since it is impracticable to part and refine the deposits separately, and since it involves one and sometimes two meltings and one assay more, to refine and make into standard metal the deposits which are designed for coinage I have to solicit your permission to give the following instructions to the Superintendent.

1. To melt, assay and calculate the value of each deposit separately whether designed for coinage or fine bars.

2. To pay the depositor immediately after the value is determined, in like metal deposited, in fine bars or coin at the option of the depositor.

3. To part and refine the deposits together, and in such amounts as may best be operated upon from time to time, by the Melter & Refiner.

4. To transmit to the Mint immediately after value is determined those bars designed for coinage.

I have also to request your directions, in accordance with the 11th Section of the Assay Office law, as to the manner and through [illegible]

agency the bullion intended for coinage shall be transferred to the Mint.

I have the honor to be
with great respect,
Your faithful Servant,
James Ross Snowden,
Treasurer.

Hon. James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury
Washington City

U. S. Assay Office,
New York, Oct. 11, 1854

Sir,

We have as yet received no advices from you respecting bars. Please inform me by Telegraph what amount you will send us and when.

If you can send $100,000 to-morrow, we should be able to pay for deposits already made; and as another Steamer has arrived we shall need a further supply on or about December.

Very respectfully
Sam'l J. Bulkley
Supt.

Col. J. R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint.

U. S. Assay Office,
New York, Oct. 11, 1854.

Sir,

In my letter of the 9th inst., I omitted to state to you that a perfectly responsible party in this city offers to transport gold between the Mint & Assay Office for 25 cts per $1000.

It is proper also to state that the question of responsibility should be considered in receiving offers from a Stock Express Co. I am informed that Adams & Co.'s Express is now a Stock Co.

Very respectfully,
Saml. F. Butterworth
Supt.
by Geo. F. Dunning.

Col. J. R. Snowden
Director U. S. Mint.

From
Supt Assay Office
Mint R

as to stringents

as to transmission
of bullion

Oct 12, 1854

Treasury Department
October 12. 1854

Sir

I have duly received your letter of the 11th inst. together with that of the Superintendent of the Assay office at New York which on your visit to that office he had placed in your hands.

I have examined the provisions of the 11th section of the Act of the 3 March, 1853, which relate to the transfer of gold and silver intended for coinage to the Mint, and will thank you to inquire and report to me in what mode the said transfers can be most judiciously and properly made in the several particulars of expense, safety & convenience.

Upon the subject of the additional instructions proposed for the Assay office, the following are authorized to wit.

1st To melt, assay and calculate the value of each deposit separately whether designed for coinage or Fine Bars.

2nd To pay the depositors immediately after the value is determined, in like metal deposited, in Fine bars or coin at the option of the depositor.

3d To part and refine the deposits together, and in such amounts as may best be operated upon from time to time by the Melter & Refiner.

The Journals in the following words "To transmit to the Mint immediately after value is determined three bars designed for coinage" is in conflict with the regulations which have heretofore been approved by the department and therefore do not feel at liberty in the absence of the Secretary to change them. But as the Superintendent assigns as a temporary reason for the issue of that instruction, namely, to relieve the office from the pressure likely to come upon it at the outset of its operations, you may consider the said instruction as authorized for the period of three months from this date.

I am, Very Respy

H. J. Washington

Actg Secy of the Treasury

Robt Snowden, Esq.
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia,
Pa

U. S. Assay Office, Treasurer's Department.

New York, Oct 12th 1854

Dan.l Sturgeon Esq.
Treas.r U.S. Mint
Philadelphia.

Sir

I forwarded by Mail to your address a letter dated the 10th inst. enclosing Trans for Draft on you, in my favor, (endorsed to your order,) for $500.000. payable in Gold Bars. Not having received the Bars, or an acknowledgement of the receipt of the Draft, I am fearful of a miscarriage of my letter.

I have received bullion to the amount of $500.000, to be paid for in Gold Bars, which I am unable to do, in consequence of the non payment of the Draft. The Secretary of the Treasury wrote me on Monday last, that I should have them in time, or I would not have received the deposits. I will thank you to inform me if you received and can pay the Draft.

Very Respectfully
John F. Cisco
Treasurer.

Mint of the United States.
Philad.a Oct 12, 1854.

Sir,

I enclose a copy of a letter, received to day, from the Superintendent of the Assay Office. As there will of necessity be a good deal of bullion transferred between the Assay Office and the Mint it might be well for the Department to invite proposals for carrying it. I make this suggestion for your consideration. In the mean time I suppose we will continue to employ the agency of Adams & Co.

I have the honor to be,
with great respect,
Your faithful servant,
James Ross Snowden.
Director

Hon. James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury,
Washington City.

Mint of the United States
Philada 12 Oct. 1837

Sir,

I have the honor to request that you will issue your requisition, in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint, for thirty eight thousand two hundred and twenty five dollars ($38,225.) payable out of the appropriation for the current fiscal year, viz.

For salaries	$6,225.
wages	18,000.
incidentals	14,000
	38,225

very respectfully
your obdt servt

Robt Patterson
Director

Hon. James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury
Washington.

United States Assay Office.

New York, Oct 12, 1854.

Sir;

A deposit of Silver was made here this morning, by Mess. Ball, Black & Co., manufacturing Jewellers, to be returned in Standard Silver Bars. The right of the depositor to make this demand is clear, both under the law & the Regulations of the Department of Sept 28th. A question has arisen, however, with reference to the charge to be made in cases of this kind. The Act of March 3, '53, [Mint Laws p. 60] provides that it "shall be equal to, but not exceed, the actual cost of the operation; including labor, wastage, use of Machinery, Materials &c., to be regulated from time to time by the Secretary of the Treasury." In the regulations prescribed by you, page 5, it is stated: "The following rates of Charges has been adopted upon deposits of Gold and Silver bullion at the Mint in Philadelphia:

VI. For casting fine or Standard bars, six cents per $100 of gross value."

As the 114th Sect. of the Act of March 4, 57, [Mint Laws p. 66] prescribes for this Office the same rate of charges as are made at the Mint, I shall until otherwise instructed regard 6 cents per $100 as the charge for Standard Silver bars. As it is the opinion of our Melter & Refiner, first that this charge is not "equal to the cost of the operation", and secondly that at this rates we are likely to be called upon frequently to perform this labor, I have deemed it my duty to call your attention to the case. Was it your intention to prescribe the same charge for Silver as for gold bars both Standard and fine?

Very respectfully
Your obt. servt.
Sam F. Butterworth
Supt.

Col. J.R. Snowden,
Director of the Mint,
Philada.

P.S. Since the above was written a deposit of 210 oz. Silver Bullion has been made with us, together in coin for coinage. Can you send us a few hundred dollars in Silver dollars? IV
S.F.B.

U. S. Assay Office,
New York, Oct. 12, 1854

Sir,

The deposits now made at this office for bars, exceed $500,000. I have received your despatch apprising me that $100,000 will be sent to day. You will see the necessity of sending us as large an amount as possible without delay. Please telegraph to-morrow how much more we may expect & when.

Very respy.
Sam F. Butterworth
Supt.

Col. J.R. Snowden,
Dirctr U.S. Mint.

Bermondsey Oct 13 1864

Sir

The writer of this has been from home or your letter of the month would have been replied to earlier

We cannot accede to your proposition.

If we have to incur the expense & trouble of sending to the West India Docks we must be paid our expenses — we should require two samples of 2 lb each our man must be allowed to screw the hemp himself & we must be paid 2 guineas for our expenses, on these terms we are willing to sample the hemp with a view to purchase the same, should we buy the hemp & be purchasers of the same we should not expect the 2 guineas

We are Sir
Your obt Servts
Potts Brothers

Dr J. W. Forman
[illegible]
London

The conditions in the above were not acceded to, consequently, the writer made no offer. J. W. Forman

Mint of the United States
Philada Oct 12, 1854.

Sir,

On the receipt of your telles of yesterday I informed you by telegraph that $100,000 in Fine bars would be sent over to-day. I have now to state that bars to the Amount of $120,000 will be sent this afternoon. I will endeavor to send the balance of the draft ($80,000) by Saturday.

I am very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
Robert Snowden.
Director.

S. F. Butterworth, Esqr.
Supt. Assay Office
New York

Racine County Bank.

Racine, Wis. October 13th 1854

To James Ros Snowden Esq
Philadelphia Penn. Dear Sir:

I have received your letter
of the 2nd inst. with Silver Coin by express
enclosures as stated.

Enclosed please find for collection and my accounts bills as stated below.

I am, very respectfully,
Your obt & st.
Geo. Northrop Cy

May Dft on N. York for $500,
Please return me in ½ Dolls $100
" " ¼ " 400.
and greatly oblige &c

October 19th [illegible] 4.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 10th inst enclosing your Draft for $500 which amount has been forwarded to you for the amt [illegible] Express in the denominations of [illegible] been specified in your letter.

I am, Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
[illegible]

Geo. C. Northrop Esq
Clerk of Racine Co. [illegible]
Racine Co.
Wis.

Dear Sir,

We send herewith some correspondence relative to the Iridium found in Gold assayed at the Phil^a Mint, which please return to us at your convenience after perusal.

Respectfully Yours

Browne & Bowen

55 Chesnut Street

Oct 13/54

J. Ross Snowden Esq.

Director of the Mint of the U.S.

we had taken so much pains
that we hoped the bars were freed
from the presence of [illegible].
~~[illegible]~~
and we shall still further endeavour
to exclude it.

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, Oct 16 1857

Gentlemen:

I have perused the letters enclosed in your favor of the 13th inst, and thank you for the opportunity.

We have taken so much pains in regard to iridium that we suppose the bars freed from ~~iridium~~ its presence: but we shall still further endeavor to exclude it.

Please find the letters enclosed.

Very Respect

J.R.S.

Director

Messrs Brown & Bowen
Bankers
53 Chest. Street,

U.S. MINT GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE 1854/NOVEMBER (CONT.)

U. S. Assay Office, Treasurer's Department.

New York, Novem 17 1854

Sir

I have received the memorandums of Gold & Silver bullion inclosed in yours of the 16th inst.

The value of the Gold bullion as reported by you, exceeds by $1.79 that stated by me.

In reference to your memorandum, I perceive that you have allowed 111 Thousandths for Silver contained in the third parcel, which exceeds the allowance made by me to the depositor, one thousandth, and as this is one Thousandth beyond the combined fineness of 996⅔ I deem it proper to call your attention thereto, and will await your reply before Crediting your Offc.

I expect to transmit tomorrow in the usual way 16.447.24/100 ounces of gold bullion as an additional payment on the Treasury draft of $500.000. in your favor

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
John J Cisco
Treasurer

Daniel Sturgis Esq
Treasurer U S Mint
Philadelphia

The difference grows out of the fact, that we determined the proportion of silver by rijid assay, and not by ~~many~~ allowance. – The practice of making an allowance of 5 thous. for base metal, altho' just, upon an average, and a necessary resort in times of crowded business, is not strict, and we ~~are~~ now make an assay for silver in all cases.

Treasury of the United States,

Oct. 30, 1854.

Sir:

Enclosed you will receive ..... Treasury Draft payable to your order. Please date and sign the accompanying receipt, and return it to this office by the first mail; and cause the draft to be presented for payment without delay.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

S. CASEY,

Treasurer of the United States.

Danl. Sturgeon Esq.

N. B.—*The payee of a Treasury draft, when he endorses it, or, presenting it for payment, receipts it, should write his name thereon as it is written in the draft or in the endorsement that assigns it to him, taking care to* AFFIX *his official or representative style or title, if it be written in the draft or in said endorsement. An endorsement by a* MARK *should be attested by two subscribing witnesses; if by a substitute, it must be accompanied by evidence of the substitution, except in the case of president and cashier of a bank or other institution.*

Taunton Oct. 31. 1837

Robt. Patterson Esq.

Acting Dirs. U.S. Mint.

Sir.

We have rec.d your favor of the 28th inst. with Check as stated, for $1600. in part payment for planchets.

We notice that you do not want more planchets at present - please inform us in due time, when you require more ——

Thos. Kelly

Nicolas Brown & Co.

Sir

November 30th, 4

With your permission leave of absence was granted last Summer to Mr. Bienvenu the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, for the purpose of visiting the mint at this place and the city of Springfield, that he might see a coining press it being manufactured for his Branch.

Sometime ago, Mr. Bienvenu reported his return to New Orleans, and presented for consideration whether his expenses should not be paid him — which he states to be $300.- from the ordinary fund of the Branch Mint.

Under the circumstances of the case, it would appear to be proper that these expenses should be allowed him: If you should be of this opinion you will please inform me so that I may give him the proper instructions.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your faithful Servant,
[illegible] R. M. Patterson
Director.

Hon. James [illegible]
Secretary of the Treasury,
Washington City.

$9.586,954.75 Total Value Dep^d 3^d Q^r 1852

Foreign Coin
" Bullion
U S Coin (65)
Taken from above
given U S Bullion

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia, 185

November 30. 4.

Sir,

I enclose a Statement in duplicate exhibiting the deposits and Coinage at the Mint during the month ending to-day.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your faithful Servant,
James Ross Snowden
Director

Hon. James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury,
Washington City.

Statement of Deposits and Coinage

At the Mint of the United States, Philadelphia,

During the Month of November 1854.

Gold Bullion Deposited.

	Value.
From California,	$ 525.200
Other sources,	$ 4,150
Total Gold Deposits,	$ 529,350

Silver Bullion Deposited,

Including Silver Purchases,	$ 405,900
Total Gold and Silver Deposits,	$ 1,235,250

Coinage Executed.

GOLD.

Denomination.	*No. of Pieces.*	*Value.*
Double Eagles,		$
Eagles,		
Half Eagles,	16410	$ 82,050
Three dollars	22740	
Quarter Eagles,	47,078	65,220
Dollars,	261,533	117,695
		261,533
Total,	347,861	$ 529,298

SILVER.

Dollars,		
Half Dollars,	240000	120000
Quarter Dollars,	80000	20000
Dimes,	1200,000	120000
Half Dimes,	500,000	25000
Three Cent Pieces,	100,000	3000
Total	2,120,000	$ 288,000

COPPER.

Cents,	$
Half Cents,	
Total,	$

RECAPITULATION.

Gold Coinage,	347861	$ 529,298
Silver "	2120000	288 000
Copper, "		
Total No. of pieces	2,467,861	Total value, $ 817,298

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, 185

Director.

Nov. 19th 1

Sir, I transmit herewith for your Consideration Copies of several Communications, Nos. 4 & 5 respecting some changes proposed by the Superintendent of the Coast Office in the operative arrangements of their offices. The proposed changes are worthy of consideration not only as respects the Convenience of the Operations at that establishment, but for the greater security of the Collections; but I am unable to say how far the Structure of the building will permit them to be made. On this point you possess ample means of information, and can best be guided by your decision.

I have the honor to be
with great respect
Your faithful Servant,

Hon. James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury
Washington City

Saml. Ruggles
Collector

Novr 29.th 1854.

To Hon James Guthrie
Sec of the Treasury
Washington

Operations of U.S.
Assay Office. as
to transmission
of bullion &c
Mint. Letter of Ch
Supt & Mr R
Enclosed

November 29th. 4.

Sir:

I transmit the enclosed letters respecting the operations of the Assay Office at New York for your consideration.

My views on the subject in question, namely, how far the deposits intended for coinage shall be operated on there have heretofore been fully presented to the Department. These views have not been changed, but rather confirmed by subsequent reflection.

Whilst the Superintendent is also of opinion that it is the intention of the law that the deposits for coinage should be sent to the Mint without being parted or refined, he thinks it would be a convenient construction to allow that office to operate upon all the bullion for the reasons assigned in his letter. So far as the Assay Office is concerned these reasons may be of weight; but I should remark that whatever inconveniences may result there by requiring deposits for coinage to be refined here, would if remedied in the manner proposed, by causing the refining of such deposits to be executed there, throw upon the Mint the inconveniences of which they are relieved. In other words instead of their force being thrown out of work and ours fully employed, by the remedy which is suggested the state of things is simply reversed.

But, after all the propriety of acceding to the Superintendent's views is to be judged as to much by

any special convenience or inconvenience to one of the other institutions but by the requirements of the law, and I must adhere to the opinion, as heretofore expressed, that bullion deposited for coinage should be forwarded to the Mint "as soon as assayed, and its net value determined", and that to retain it at the Assay Office until it is refined, does not seem to meet the requirements of the law.

You will observe that the Superintendent in his letter asks that in case authority is given to part and refine the gold deposited for coinage, they may be relieved from the necessity imposed by former instructions from the Department (since temporarily suspended) of preparing standard ingots therefrom, but that the fine bars may be forwarded to us. In this request I entirely concur. It would be improper and illegal in my judgment for us to take such ingots for coinage without re-melt and re assay, and in that case the melting down of the fine gold at New York for the purpose of standarding would be a labor and expense absolutely wasted, and with no possible advantage.

Whatever may be your decision as to the kind of bullion to be transferred to the Mint, it will be necessary for you to direct the transportation of the amount recently deposited at New York for coinage (say $1,000,000. If this is to be done by transfer drafts, I would suggest that you cause to be issued for the convenience of transportation, two drafts

of the Treasurer of the Mint payable in gold bullion. The Treasurer can then pay the amount in parted or unparted bullion as you may decide in your reply to the communica-

tion.

Of the deposits received at this Office, including the last arrival, the amount payable in bars had been about three millions of dollars and the amount payable in coin about one and one half millions. The amount to be fully operated upon at this Office at that place, including parting, refining and cutting into fine bars, is on a ratio of that as compared with the Amount to be sent here. This seems to be a pretty fair and convenient division of operations. Of course this ratio cannot be fully relied on as indicative of the future, as the demand for coin or bars depends upon the uncertain state of foreign exchange.

It is perhaps proper that I should remark that a part of Mr. Hooks letter - referred to by the Superintendent - is unintelligible to me. He refers to "bills and inconvenience to the depositors to the government", consequent on sending uncoined instead of refined bars, but there is certainly no difference existing out of the particular form in which the bullion may be for when transmitted. In this last paragraph he says that the law could not have intended that any portion of the deposits at the Mint Office should be sent to Philadelphia, though the language of the act on this point is perfectly explicit.

I have the honor to be,
with great respect,
Your faithful Servant.

Robt Patterson.
Director

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Secretary of Treasury.

partment.

New York, November 27th 1854

Sir,

By the arrival of the Steamer George Law on the 24th inst, Gold to the amount of $1.200.000 has been deposited at this Office up to this morning, and from what I can learn, it is probable that, together with that since received, and that which will be deposited through the day, the whole amount deposited will be about $1.300.000. Out of this large amount, only $180.000 is required to be paid in bars, while the large amount of $1.120.000 is to be paid in coin, and if this large amount is to be sent to the Mint at Philada it will leave but the $180.000 to be refined in this Office. This small amount is insufficient to require even one of the four "parting hearths" erected in this department, or to require one fourth of the workmen now employed here, and consequently three fourths of the workmen, and three fourths of the apparatus, will remain unemployed until the next arrival of Gold, which may be required to be paid mostly in bars as heretofore, and in that case the men will be fully employed.

As it is impossible to know beforehand, how the deposits of Gold are made will be required to be paid, whether in bars or coin, a state of uncertainty exists, which renders it impossible to know what force is required to be kept constantly employed, some of discharged, or what moment the men might be again required.

With the facilities for refining in this department, and the force now employed, I feel confident that I can refine $1.000.000 per week or $50.000.000 per year, and consequently all the Gold received upon Deposit at this Office, whether to be paid in bars or coin, can be easily settled and refined in this Office without difficulty or pressure of business. Should a

Sir,

By the 11th Sect. of the Act establishing an Assay Office in New York, all bullion intended by the depositor to be converted into coin is directed to be transmitted to the Mint for coinage. The regulation of the Department of Sept. 28th prescribes that this bullion shall first be refined and converted into standard ingots at this Office, and then transmitted for immediate coinage at the Mint. This regulation has, however, been temporarily suspended so far as to authorize, for the period of three months from Oct. 18th, the transmission of the bullion in its unparted state, and in this modification it is now in force.

As the reasons which led to this modification no longer exist, and as certain inconveniences, - more fully stated in the enclosed communication of the Melter & Refiner of this Office, - have resulted from its operation, taken in connection with the greatly diminished demand for fine bars, I have deemed it my duty to submit the matter for your consideration.

By the accompanying communication of the Melter & Refiner you will obtain that the Capacity of our refinery is now fully equal to all the bullion likely to be deposited at this Office; and although, in the absence of instructions, I had supposed it to be the intention of the law that the deposits for coinage should be sent to the Mint without being parted in refinery, I am clearly of opinion that with the present organization of this Office and the capacity of our refinery, both economy and convenience would be promotedly allowing this Office to operate upon all the bullion deposited.

If under these circumstances the Department shall see fit to terminate the existing arrangement of transmitting unparted bullion, I would respectfully suggest that the Conveyance of this Office, and the

M: Peterson

New York 30 Jan 1854

Sir

It might be well, if you should order the packages of Silver to be put up in $50 and have it mixt in name of pieces, so as to suit the convenience of Store keepers in this City. As the Silver packages sent here are composed of $100- which are mostly taken by the Banks, depriving the trading folks of the advantage of the Silver change & coin— If you should have open packages especially for "family use", as one might say, done up in sums of $25 or 30 it would, doubtless, facilitate the circulating Medium of our Silver coin. While the numerous Banks of the State are permitted to issue their Small Bills, it is totally neglected to expect or strive to enforce the circulation of Gold Coin. It might as well, with some propriety, be moulded into Bars and sold cheap for transportation to France and England.

Yours respectfully

Thos Winthrop

Mint of the United States.
Philadelphia, November 30th, 1854.

Sir.

In accordance with the arrangement made with Mr. Dunning respecting the enclosed bills, I have had them receipted in duplicate and herewith return them to you.

In addition to these bills, I am advised that there are others in your possession, held by parties here; Mr. Sahiseley informs me that besides his bill now sent, he has presented three others, amounting in the aggregate to $306.00 - and the Treasurer of the Mint has heretofore furnished you with a copy of the Pay Rolls paid by him on a/c. of your Office.

It will be well when you enclose a check for the Amount of these bills, to furnish me also with a Statement of the parties severally holding them, and of the sum due to each one respectively.

I am, Very respectfully,
Yours, &c.,

James Ross Snowden.
Director.

Samuel J. Butterworth, Esq.,
Superintendent U.S. Assay Office,
New York City.

United States Assay Office.

New York, Dec. 28, 1854.

Sir,

I should be glad to receive from you a duplicate of one of your Assayer's reports, filled up in conformity with the suggestions of the 1st Auditor. It is desirable that our forms & accounts should be in agreement with yours. Although I am unable to see the value of a mere copy of the Treasurer's calculations, and although this service will involve the necessity of additional clerical labor, I shall of course comply with the instructions which you have given.

I hope in a few days to present some suggestions respecting the regulations for the transfers between this office & the Mint, as requested in yours of the 23d inst.

Very respectfully,

Your obt. servt.

Hon. J. R. Snowden,
Director of the Mint.

Sam. T. Butterworth
Supt.

United States Assay Office.

New York, Nov. 28, 1854.

Sir,

Owing to the peculiar construction & the relative positions of the two buildings occupied by the Assay Office, certain practical difficulties exist, in the transaction of its business, for which special remedies are required.

The Weigh-room of the Assay Office is situated in the front building. The melting-room is in the 2d Story of the back building. All deposits received in the Weigh-room have now to be carried, by hand, across the yard & up a flight of stairs to the melting room; then returned after melting in the same manner to be reweighed; and again carried to the back building to be placed in the vault of the Treasurer or Melter & Refiner. It is found that the three furnaces in the deposit-melting room are not sufficient; and as no more can be erected there, it has been found necessary to take the three fine gold furnaces in the 3d story for deposit-melting & to cast

two more furnaces against the same wall, (the west wall of the 3d Story) and to use the three furnaces in the 2d Story for fine gold melting. This change, while it will relieve us from the delay which now exists in deposit-melting, will augment the difficulty of transporting bullion between the Weigh-room & the Melting room. These transfers have now to be made by the workmen of the Office; but it frequently happens that these men are most occupied with their own proper duties when most needed for this purpose. Besides I do not consider this mode a safe one. Deposits amounting to fifty or sixty thousand ounces are frequently poured upon us in one day. These must be carried in separate pans or boxes, and the stumbling or slipping of the person carrying it might occasion irreparable confusion as well as loss. The employment of two pans becomes almost impossible owing to the increased weight to be carried.

To remedy this difficulty, two plans suggest themselves. 1st. A hoistway in the yard near the West end of the back building, by which a car-load of deposits can be hoisted to the Melting room & drawn in through one of the windows cut down to the level of the floor. 2d. An

opening through the South wall of the present hoistway ~~by which~~ level with the yard. At present the only access to the hoistway from the yard is through a door at the bottom which is on the level of the basement floor, some 12 feet below the flagging of the Yard.

On the enclosed ~~plan~~ plan I have indicated the position of the independent hoistway required by the first plan, and the arrangement proposed for the second. In the latter you will notice that a small car loaded with deposit in locked pans or boxes could be drawn from the Weigh-room down directly upon the platform car standing upon the track. This platform car would be pushed forward opposite the door of the hoistway through which the small car-load of bullion would be drawn upon the hoistway & elevated to the Melting room on the 3d. floor.

This arrangement would be much the most economical. An independent hoistway would cost at least $500; while the proposed connection with the present hoistway can probably be made for $200. As it will involve the cutting & removing through the wall of the hoistway, however I have deemed it proper to submit the matter through you to the Department. In consideration

of the great strength of the walls of the Assay-
office and of the building in particular, as
well as of the urgent necessity for the proposed
arrangement, I earnestly hope that it may be
sanctioned by the Department.

I may add that the proposed arrangement
is peculiarly needed for other purposes than the mere
transfer of bullion. The materials employed in
the Office such as Acids, Charcoal, Salt, Zinc, &c.
have now to be carried to the basement, lowered
by hand to the Assay-room below, & then hoisted to the
several floors of the building. Carts heavily loaded
have to be driven upon the flagging of the yard
at great inconvenience & frequently obstructing the
passage way. But the proposed rail-way & car,
which could be unloaded at the Alley which leads
from Wall St., and their contents placed upon the
car could draw to the basement. The difficulties & risks encountered by the present arrange-
ment are more particularly stated in the com-
munication addressed to me by the Treasurer &
the Melter & Refiner of this Office, which I
beg leave to refer upon the 4th instant, and to which
I beg leave now to refer again.

I send herewith a plan showing the rel-
ative positions of the buildings & exhibiting

the proposed arrangements. On the other side
of the same sheet I have given a plan
of the granite foundations of the basement,
& the position of the proposed door. The
upper course of granite need not be dis-
turbed. This course is two feet in height &
consists of a single block of granite which
would form the lintel of the door. I
have also indicated the thickness or height
of the course below the proposed door, form-
ing the lintel of the present door.

In connection with this subject I wish to
submit for your approval an arrangement of
the business of the Weigh-room & the Deposit-
Melting room respectively which the situation
of these rooms with respect to each other, and
the safety of the bullion renders highly desirable.

To save the labor, delay & expense of
bringing back to the Weigh-room the bullion that has
been melted in the Deposit-Melting room (3d Story of
both buildings,) and of again returning it to be
delivered to the Melter & Refiner, I propose that
the weighing & delivery to the Melter & Refiner should
take place in the Deposit-Melting room. For
this purpose one of the clerks of the Weigh-room
would be stationed in the Melting-room & be provided

with a balance, desk, & necessary books of entry. This clerk may be styled Clerk of the Melts, & his duty would be to take charge of all deposits sent from the weigh-room, deliver the same to the Melters in the order required, superintend the melting & casting with a view to prevent loss, direct the stamping of the ingots & gathering the grains belonging to each melt &c., & generally to exercise a careful supervision of the operations of the Melting-room. When deposits are received in the Weigh-room, they would be placed in locked pans or boxes & piled upon a car. The weight of each having been entered in the Weigh-book, a card containing the number & weight would also be placed in each pan or box. The loaded car, properly covered & secured, would then be transported to the Melting-room in the manner already indicated. From the cards accompanying these deposits, the Clerk of the Melts transcribes the number & weight upon his Weigh-book. — When the deposits have been melted & are ready for weighing they will be weighed by the Clerk of the Melts in the presence of the Melter & Refiner, each making entries in separate books & comparing results. As the separate deposits are taken from the balance they would be placed upon a platform scale & their aggregate weight taken to verify the correctness of the entries in the books. The deposits, thus weighed

& entered, are thereupon delivered to the Melter & Refiner whose vault is upon the same floor. The Clerk of the Melts now adds to the cards received from the Weigh-room the weight after melting of each deposit & returns them to the Weigh-Clerk who will transcribe from them the weight after melting upon his Weigh-book. The Weigh-Clerk & the Clerk of the Melts will compare their books at the close of each day's business.

You are aware of the inconvenience & delay attending the present method of re-weighing deposits after melting. When the Weigh-Clerk is most pressed by depositors, he must now keep them waiting until the melts from the Melting-room are weighed & entered. The arrangement above proposed would avoid this difficulty entirely.

I am satisfied that the plan proposed would add greatly to the convenience, dispatch, safety & accuracy with which the business of this office is now performed. I sincerely hope that it will meet with the approval of the Department & that the necessary modification of existing regulations will be made.

Very respectfully,
Your obt. Servt.
Sam F. Butterworth
Supt.

Hon. J. R. Snowden,
Director of the Mint,
Philad.

10 feet Alley from Hall St.

Area.

Furnace.

Deposit-melting Room
3d Story.

Back Building.

Door.

Area

Area

Area

Car
4 x 6 ft

Rail Track

Car
4 x 6 feet

Platform

Platform

Platform

Door.

Door.

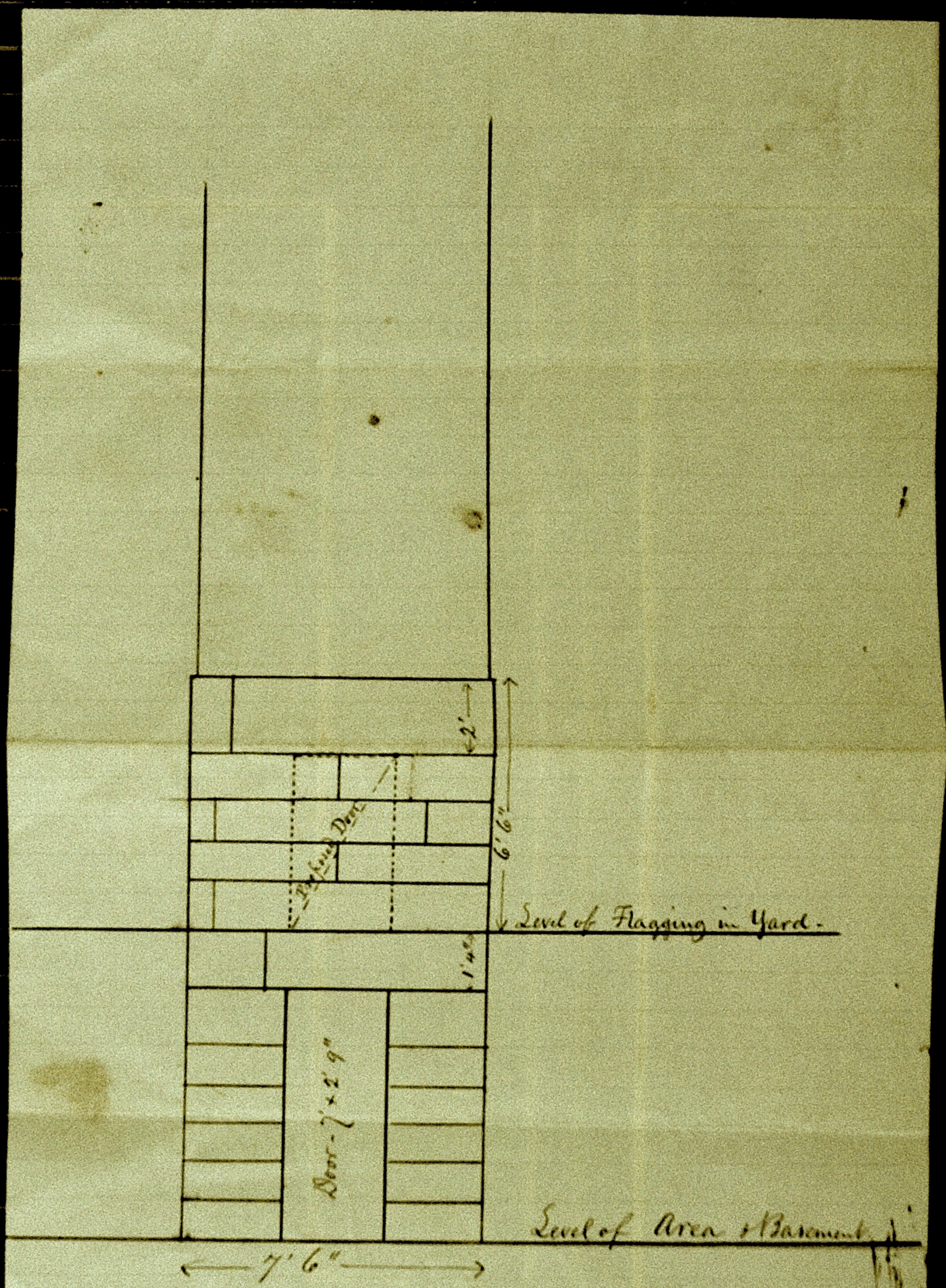
Door.

Front Building.

Entry

Asst. Treasurer

Weigh - Room.



Plan showing Granite Foundation + Doorway of South Wall of Hoistway N.Y. Assay Office, + indicating position of proposed door. Foundation Wall 2' 6" thick.

U. S. Assay Office, Treasurer's Department.

New-York, ... 185

November 28th 1851

Sir

As per receipt and Statement enclosed I have this day forwarded you, by the "Adams Express Company", Ten boxes of gold bullion; Valued at One Hundred & Six Thousand, Sixty eight 32/100 th dollars. ($ 106.068.32) which includes the final payment upon Treasury Transfer Draft No: 1225. dated the 21st Inst. in your favor, for Five Hundred Thousand dollars. The balance you will please place to the Credit of my Account.

I shall be pleased to receive the Assay memorandum of gold bullion forwarded to you on the 18th inst.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt

John J. Cisco
Treasurer

Daniel Sturgeon Esq
Treasurer of U.S. Mint
Philadelphia.

Received of the Treasurer of U.S.
Assay Office, New York, Two boxes of Gold
Bullion, valued at One hundred & Six thousand,
Sixty eight 32/100 Dollars, which we agree
to insure against loss, and deliver to the Treas-
urer of U.S. Mint at Philadelphia, at
50 cts per $1000

Wm Nott & Co
Agts
Adams Express Co

New York. November 28th 1854

November 29th 4

Sir,

In obliging to your favor of the 24th inst. I have to state that the officers of the Mint Office, and especially the Treasurer will find it a source of embarrassment, difficulty and delay if their usual duties are required to be performed by them in person: as for example, the Treasurer is to receive and weigh the bullion and give the receipt and the memorandum of value under his hand to the depositors. From recently it has been usual to form a plan to adopt, in this matter, the legal maxim "qui facit per alium facit per se."

It is quite evident that as to the Superintendents' warrants the Treasurer has in his own hands ample security, from every one, as a preliminary to the signing of the warrant the Calculations of the value of the deposit are made in his office and no warrant is paid without a subsequent comparison with the statement of value.

As a literal and personal performance of duty by each officer will be found inconvenient I have to suggest that it would be well to have a conference with your officers on the subject - the result of which you will please communicate to me.

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, November 27, 1854

Sir,

Your letter of the 25th inst. has been received. The subject therein presented for my consideration has heretofore

(Copy)

Invoice of Eighty-eight bands gold and silver Smelting Lumps, shipped by Daniel Sturgeon, Treasurer, U.S. Mint, Philadelphia, per bark Anna, Egbert, Master, now lying in the port of Philadelphia, and bound for London, England consigned to Messrs Jos M Farnum

Lots	Bands	Numbers	Tare	Net Wt	Deductions		Total Value	
			lbs av.	lbs av	¢	dec	$	c
GS-7 1	1 to 10	1 to 10	477	2827	0	614	1735	78
2	11 - 20	11 - 20	511	3323		676	2247	70
3	21 - 30	21 " 30	494	3163		699	3212	33
4	31 - 40	31 " 40	516	3108		667	2073	04
5	41 - 50	41 " 50	511	3270		887	1919	49
6	51 - 60	51 " 60	521	3135		671	2103	39
7	61 " 70	61 " 70	492	2988		369	1102	57
Ubd Mint Phila.	18 bbls	1 to 8, and ten unnumbered	998	7230		377	2725	71
			4520	29.048			17120	21

Mint of the United States
Treasurers Office June 30. 1834.
(Signed) Daniel Sturgeon
Treasurer

United States

Philad.a Dec. 27, 1854.

Dear Sir,

I am obliged to you for your letter of the 24th inst., and have to apologize for not earlier replying to the same. It was accidentally laid aside, among some other papers, and amid the multiplicity of business now pressing on me it escaped my memory and attention.

The invoice as formerly sent to you, for the shipment per Anna L. said upon inquiry to have been correct. The correct invoice is now enclosed, corresponding with the weight as stated in the bill of lading and as verified by your endorsement on the former invoice, by an oversight not readily accounted for, the weight of the barrels containing the sheet iron was included with the

net weights — making the difference of 3522 lbs as you have discovered.

I am obliged to you for your information regarding the prices of silver, and also for the article from the Economist. I am glad to find a correspondence between the views of the writer and those expressed in my annual report.

Two boxes containing samples from Mint sweep, to be sold here, according to the advertisement of which I sent you a copy, are this day forwarded to your address, care of Baring Bros & Co. I supposed you might find it advantageous to have these samples, and trust that they may furnish you the means of tendering us either directly, or as agent for other parties, a bid for the lots.

Yours, very sincerely

James Ross Snowden
Director.

P.S. — Your letter announcing the sale of the shipment of sweeps by the [illegible] [illegible] been received and gives much satisfaction.

United States Assay Office.

New York, Nov. 27, 1854.

Sir,

Mr. Pettenuth being called away from the Office finds himself unable to address you as he had intended. He desired me to transmit to you the accompanying letter addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury inclosing a communication from the Melter & Refiner of this Office, and to request you to transmit the same with such views as you should be pleased to express on the subject.

Very respectfully
your obt. servt.
Geo. T. Downing,
Supt. clerk.

Hon. J. R. Snowden,
Director of the Mint,
Philad.

From Geo F Lemming Esq
Supt. Balt R
Assay Office
MD

Enclosing By direction
of the Supt a
letter from the Balt R
to the Supt & also one
from the Supt to the
Sec. of the Treasury
and call my attention
to the subject therein
presented.

Nov 27. 1854

November 27. 4.

Sir,

I enclose a bill of Mr Henry Troemner for a Balance and weights manufactured by him for the Office of the Assistant Treas. U. S. at St. Louis and which I have certified to be correct. The balance was ordered in pursuance of your letter of the 17th July last, in which you directed that the bill for the same properly certified to should be presented to you. The balance has been inspected by me, and will at the earliest opportunity be shipped to its destination. You will please cause a draft to be issued in favor of Mr Troemner for $1000, the Amount due (as per contract) for the above balance and weights. The draft may be sent to him under cover to me when I can obtain his receipt and enclose it to you.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your faithful Servant,
Jame. Ross Snowden,
Director.

Hon. James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury,
Washington City.

United States Assay Office.
New York, Nov. 25, 1854.

Sir,

I enclose a statement of the operations of this office for the week ending this day.

Very respectfully,
Your obt. servt.
Sam T. Butterworth
Supt.

Hon. J. R. Snowden,
Director of the Mint,
Philada.

Nov. 25th 4

Sir,

In reply to your letter [illegible] 23d. inst, I [illegible] to state that it was not my intention in the Regulations of the 16th. inst to make any change in respect to the afternoon of Saturday. The following words were inadvertently omitted, which you will please [illegible] a [illegible], at the end of the Regulations after [illegible] word [illegible]; namely, "and the [illegible] (2 o'clock) of Saturdays."

[illegible] do not think it necessary, at least for [illegible] present, to make any change in respect to [illegible] compensation for work, which you may require [illegible], after [illegible] o'clock.

[illegible] am, Very Respectfully
Your obt Servant,

James Ross Snowden
Director.

Sam [illegible] Butterworth Esq
Supt. Assay Off.
New York.

P.S. I will write to you on Monday in reply to your favor of [illegible], respecting wages of the [illegible].

Mint of the United States.
Phila.ª Nov. 25, 1853.

~~No extra time will hereafter be allowed in the Coining Department of the Mint.~~

It is directed that the operations of the Mint shall be so arranged by the officers of each department as to avoid extra hours. No extra time will hereafter be allowed unless specially authorized by the Director on the application of the proper officer. This order will take effect to day.

James R. Snowden
Director

Sent to
C. C.
M. L. R.
Sprague.

United States Assay Office.

New York, Nov. 25, 1854.

Sir,

A fine gold bar, issued by the Mint, was yesterday presented to us by Mess. Adams & Co., to be exchanged for coin. It was received and paid for, deducting the coinage charge of half per cent., according to the practice of the Mint.

It seems to me that in making these exchanges we are exposed to great hazard. Of the bars issued by the Mint we have not even a register of numbers, weights & values; and yet if the practice of redeeming bars prevails, I do not think any distinction should be made between those issued by this office & those made at the Mint & Branches.

Even in the case of our own bars, a mere comparison with the register, and testing of the weight, seems a very insufficient protection against fraud. If the bar presented for exchange agrees in weight, stamps, & external appearance with the one issued from the Assay Office bearing the same number, we receive it. And yet I suppose it would be entirely practicable for persons

November 27. 4.

Sir

I have received your letter of the 25th inst. and in reply have to state that the subject therein pourended for my consideration, has heretofore been carefully considered at the Mint. It does not appear to us, that there is any hazard in receiving these bars. In the first place, there is that about the exterior of a fine gold bar, which is extremely difficult to counterfeit, a person accustomed to their appearance. We have received & sent many such bars, from England, France & elsewhere and were never imposed upon.

But again, the receiving party have the bar in their own hands and can satisfy themselves by an assay, perhaps by Specific gravity, of the genuineness of the article. In cases of doubt, an assay is the most satisfactory test, and causes not much delay. The practice of annexing engraved certificates was tried, at a considerable expense of money & labour, and given up as useless.

I am, Very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt.
Robt. Patterson
Director.

Sam F. Butterworth, Esq.,
Supt. Assay Office,
New York,

November [illegible] 4.

Sir.

I enclose bill of lading for 2 [illegible] pieces were shipped [illegible] for your [illegible].

Mr. [illegible] has sent his bill [illegible] amounting to $90.00 which I return with a view to pay it with the others against your office.

Very respectf.

Yours &c.

[illegible]

[illegible]

L. M. [illegible] Esq.

[illegible]

New York City.

United States Assay Office

New York, Nov 24 1854

Dr Sir

I have made a contract with Mr Master Rowe to supply this Office with 300 tons of best Lehigh Coal at $7.45/100 per ton, I advertised for proposals and this was the lowest bid -

As it is not possible for the Supt of this Office to be in the Office at all times when his signature may be required to a warrant to obtain payment of a deposit, I wish that some instruction may be given to the Treasr by the Secy of the Treasy which will authorize him to pay all such warrants when signed by the Supt. Clerk; requiring him to obtain the signature also of the Supt at the close of each qr - the Supt might die before the close of the qr; it must that contingency the Treasr should be informed that in case of the death of the Supt the warrants signed by the Supt Clerk would be rec'd at the Treasy Deptmt as vouchers - You will much oblige me if you will present this to the consideration of the Secr of the Treasy - The "Regulations"

presented for this Office have been rec^d since be enforced. Several deposits of old American Coin have been offered here which I have refused to receive as I find no authority in the law creating this Office to operate upon any other than "foreign Coin".

With great respect
Your ob^t
Saml T. Butterworth
Supt

Hon^d
Jas Ross Snowden
Director Mint

U. S. Assay Office,
New York, Nov. 24, 1854.

Dear Sir,

Our Treasurer, Mr. Cisco, is, as you are aware, a strict constitutionist; and in accordance with the 2^d Sect. of the Mint Act of Jan. 18/37 refuses to pay Bullion or Ordinary Warrants unless they are actually signed by the Supt. The practice which prevails at the Mint of placing the signature of the Warrant clerk, upon the Director's signature at a subsequent time, Mr. Cisco will not accede to unless expressly sanctioned by the Sec^y of Treas.^y

I need not explain to you the impossibility of the Superintendent's being present in his office every moment during business hours, & yet at any moment during those hours

persons having claims on the Pollin and Ordinary Funds are liable to be called. To keep them waiting is exceedingly unpleasant & tends to bring the office into bad repute; and yet whenever the Supt. is called at once on duty in another part of the building this must be done. If he should be kept from the office by sickness or other accident, it might cause a panic in Wall St!

Usually the warrants are prepared & signed in advance of the call for payment; but you know that it is not possible always to do this, without causing delay & disappointment to depositors.

For this difficulty there are two remedies. Either the Supt. must sign warrants in blank & leave them with his clerk, or the clerk be authorized to sign for him in his absence.

The first plan is liable to all the objections that can be urged against the second, & to the additional one that there would be danger of a signed warrant getting into the hands of some one who would use it fraudulently.

Personally I should prefer to be exempt from the responsibility of either plan; but of the two decidedly prefer the last. I enclose a specimen warrant & suggest that Mr. Cisco be authorized by the Sec. of Treasury to pay warrants signed in this way, requiring however the Supt. to sign also before the rendition of the quarterly acc.

Very respectfully

Col. Snowden, Dunlap &c. } S. F. Denning

prescribed fo[...]
be enforced[...]
Law have be[...]
refused to [...]
in the law [...]
upon any [...]

Hon.
Ja. Ross Sn[...]
Di[...]

P.S. I called at the Mint
a second time, before leaving
Philada., & regretted not seeing
you. There are several matters
about which I wished to
talk with you. I hope
to be able to run over again
soon.

GOLD BULLION.

Warrant No. 8

To the Treasurer of the U. S. Assay Office,

Pay to

or order,

Dollars, namely

	Dolls.	Cts.
In Gold Coins		
In Fine Bars, Nos.		
In Certificate, No.		
Total,		

being the value of a deposit of Gold Bullion by the party above named. And for so doing this shall be your warrant.

Dated at the U. S. Assay Office,
New York, 1854.

Superintendent.

Geo. F. Dunning }
Supt. Elect }

Received, 1854, of the Treasurer of the Assay Office, the above amount, in full satisfaction for the deposit aforesaid.

Taunton Nov 24. 1837.

Danl Sturgeon Esq.

Treas: U.S. Mint.

Sir

We have rec^d your favor of the 22nd inst, enclosing draft on New York, for $992^50, in settlement of our bill of Copper planchets, viz. $2.592^50 —

We are, Sir,

Yours

Very Respectfully

Crocker Brs & Co

Treasury Department
Nov. 24. 1854.

Sir

I have to request you will transmit to me a statement showing the whole amount of silver coined at the Mint and branches under the act of 21 Feb 1853. and the places to which it has been distributed by transfers and I will be glad if you will send the statement as soon as it can be prepared.

I am very respy

James Guthrie
Secy of the Treasy

J. Ross Snowden Esqr
Director of the
Mint Phila

Statement of the Amount of Silver Coined
At the Mint of the U.S. States and the Br. Mint at New Orleans under the Act
of Feb. 21, 1853, and the Amount of the Same and also the places
to which it has been distributed by transfer.

Denomination of Coin	Mint of United States Value	Br. Mint at New Orleans Value	Total Value
Half Dollars	$3,056,354	$3,092,000	$6,148,354
Quarter Dollars	6,575,505	590,000	7,165,505
Dimes	1,527,501	223,000	1,750,501
Half Dimes	887,510	188,000	1,075,510
Three Cents	12,000		12,000
Total Value	$12,059,170	$4,093,000	$16,152,170

The Amount of Silver Coins of the new issue distributed by transfer
from the Mint of the United States Philadelphia is as follows:

To Treasurer U.S.	Washington	$ 197,200
" Asst Treas U.S.	New York	1,003,200
" " " "	Boston	534,000
" " " "	St. Louis	1,210
" " " "	San Francisco	11,217.34
" Depl U.S.	" Baltimore	102,000
" " " "	Norfolk	91,000
" " " "	Charleston	33,000
" " " "	Cincinati	153,000
" " " "	Pittsburgh	55,000
" " " "	Jeffersonville	120,000
" " " "	Savannah	33,000
" " " "	Detroit	110,000
" " " "	Richmond	10,000
" " " "	Chicago	113,000
Total Amount distributed by transfer		$2,078,627.34

November 25th 4.

Sir,

In compliance with the request contained in your letter of the 24th inst I enclose herewith a Statement of the amount of Silver coined at the Mint of the U. States and the Branch Mint at New Orleans under the Act of 21st Feb: 1853, and the amount of the same and also the places to which it has been distributed by transfer. The Statement does not exhibit the amount of Silver coins exchanged for gold coin, or the Amount distributed by transfer at the branch Mint at New Orleans. The necessary information is not in my possession to present the latter.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your faithful Servant.

Snowden

Hon. James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury,
Washington City,

Office Asst Ex U. S
St Louis Mo Nov 24th 1834

James Ross Snowden Esqr
Director of Mint
Philadelphia

Sir

Your favor of the 11th inst was duly received and I am now able to state that I have had an interview with a gentleman who feels qualified to put up the Balance which your letter informs me you have sent to me - should he prove incompetent however I will then have to avail myself of your proposition.

I presume there shipped are for weighing gold - When may I expect there for use

I am glad to know that the balances are coming as we were a good deal troubled about weighing coin

I am Very Respectfully
Your obt Svt
Isaac N. Henry
Asst Ex

Stephensport Ky
Nov 24th 1854

Director of the Mint Phila Pa

Dear Sir, I have a small lot of California gold perhaps $100 worth. It will cost me considerably to have it sent by express to Phila and the coin returned. If I should send it by mail could you not without too great inconvenience have its value ascertained and remit it to me in the same way in notes upon any solvent bank. If you could you would very much oblige

Yours respectfully

J No Bassett
Stephensport
Ky.

Disapproved. Suggest to send by express or by some person coming to Phila if he wishes to avoid the expense.

November 30, 4.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 24th. inst. The transaction you propose is irregular and contrary to our usual practice in receiving bullion and I am therefore compelled to decline it. I would suggest that you send your gold by Express, or, if you wish to avoid the expense attending this mode of transmission, you can perhaps forward it by some person coming to Philadelphia, who can make the deposit & receive the proceeds for you.

I am, very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt.
James Ross Snowden
Director

Wm. L. H. Bacon,
Stephensport,
Ky.

U. S. Assay Office, Treasurer's Department.

New York, Novem 23 1854

Sir

On the 20th inst. I forwarded per the "Adams Express Company", One parcel containing four Specimen bars of gold bullion, Valued at Fourteen hundred and twenty five 68/100 dollars; the receipt of which I shall be pleased to have you acknowledge.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
John J. Cisco
Treasurer

Daniel Sturgeon Esq
Treasurer U.S. Mint
Philadelphia.

United States Assay Office.
New York, Nov. 23, 1854.

Sir,

In the regulations of Nov. 16th, I notice the following in regard to holidays

"Such holidays will be allowed as are usual at the place where the Mint, Branch, or Assay Office, is situated."

Was it your intention to discontinue the practice of regarding the afternoon of Saturday as a holiday?

Very respectfully,
your obt. servt.,
Sam'l S. Dutilleuth
Supt.

Hon. H. R. Snowden,
Director of the Mint,
Philad.

P. S. I would suggest that Saturday afternoon be made a holiday, but that the Supt. be authorized to require the services of the Workmen when necessary, without extra compensation.

S. S. D.

November 22d. [illegible]

Sir

I have received your letter of the 20th inst., accompanied with an explanatory letter from Prof. Kent your Melter & Refiner, and enclosing a letter to the Secretary of the Treasury. These letters I have transmitted to the Department and requested an approval of the alterations with a view to a more full supply of water for the Melter & Refiners Department.

In respect to the letter from Prof. Kent dated 20th inst. — placed in my hands by Mr. Cumming, I have to state that it seems proper and was expected that Bernard McIntyre should be placed, as to compensation, on an equal footing with other workmen sent from here. Although originally employed in the Coiner's Department, he was detached from thence and placed in the Deposit Melting room where he had been employed for several weeks as "help" before his transfer to your office.

I return herein Prof. Kent's letter.

Very respectfully,
Yours &c.

James Ross Snowden,
Director.

S. A. Butterworth Esq.
Superintendent Assay Office.

ADAMS & CO.'S OFFICES.

110 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia. 82 Broadway, New York.
24 Washington St., Boston. 161 Baltimore St., Baltimore.
Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington. 7 Pomeroy Bldg., Richmond.
Corner of Fourth St., Pittsburgh. Main St., Cincinnati.
18 Broad St., Charleston, S. C. Camp St., New Orleans.

ALVIN ADAMS, W. B. DINSMORE, E. S. SANFORD, AND S. M. SHOEMAKER.

Philadelphia, Nov. 21 1854

RECEIVED from J. Ross Snowden Esq

Director US Mint, one bag ~~said to~~ containing

Ten thousand dolls gold

Marked Franklin Bank of Portage Co
Franklin Mills
Ohio

which we agree to forward to _____ only,

and deliver to _____ Agent,

We not holding ourselves responsible for loss or damage of any package beyond the value of Fifty Dollars, unless otherwise herein stated, and insured by mutual agreement.

For the Proprietors, J. R. Snowden

Crissy & Markley, Printers, Goldsmiths Hall, Library Street.

Mint: Oct. 4.

Dear Sir:

Yours of 14th inst: enclosing draft for $2000. has been received, and the proceeds handed to Adams & Co. for transmission, in gold coin as requested, viz:

Double Eagles	$1000.
Eagles & Halfs	1000.

Very respectfully,
Yours &c.

James Ross Snowden,
Director.

Charles Peck Jr. Esq.,
Cashier Franklin Bk.
Portage Co. Ohio.

U. S. Assay Office, Treasurer's Department.

New York, January 2d 1854

Sir

I am in receipt of your letter of the 18th inst. at date of Ten Thousand Silver Dollars, for the "Adams Express Company" in payment of Treasury Draft No. . in my favor.

The Amount Charged as first payment, upon Treasury Draft for $500.000. in your favor is $100.181.27 according to your Memorandum.

I have this day forwarded in the usual manner, for Assorted Statement and Adams & Co. receipt, agreeable to instructions, Four Specimen bars of Gold Bullion, valued at Fourteen hundred and Sixty five 68/100 Dollars, Viz.

18,5 oz	No. 99.	Fineness 995.	18.50.	$380.52
19.04	294.	992½.	19.04.	390.64
16.49.	376.	991.	16.18.	337.60
17.92	400.	990½.	17.92.	366.92
				1475 68
				7 39
				1468 29

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
John J. Cisco
Treasurer

Daniel Sturgeon Esq.
Treas U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

Received New York. November 20 1852
of The Treas[r] of U S Apay Office New York. One
Parcel containing Four Spaimen Gold bars
Valued at Fourteen hundred & seventy five
68/100 dollars. which we agree to deliver to
The Treas[r] of the U S Mint. Philadelphia.
we insuring against loss at As per $1000.

The Adams Express Co
Per E. Lovering

United States Assay Office.
New York, Nov 20 1854

Dr Sir I enclose a letter for the Secy Treasy in relation to a deficiency amongst on the Stamping work of this office. Let me beg you to obtain the authority necessary as speedily as possible.

Respy Wm. T. Pettenuth
Supt

Hon
Jas Ross Snowden
Director
Phila

(Copy)

[illegible] November 1857

Sir

I enclose a letter from the Superintendent of the Assay Office at New York accompanied by the application of [illegible] for Melter & Refiner at that Office to the Superintendent.

In forwarding these letters to your consideration I have to remark that a full supply of water is of the first importance in conducting the operations in the department of the Melter & Refiner, and for the reasons stated in these papers it seems expedient that the alteration asked for should be approved.

I have the honor to be
With great respect
Your faithful Servant.
Jam. Ross Snowden.
Director

Hon. Howell Cobb
Secy of Treasury

(Copy.)

United States Assay Office
New York, Nov. 20, 1854.

Sir

I enclose a communication from the Melter & Refiner of this Office in relation to a supply of water; I am satisfied, upon an examination into the matter, that the alterations suggested by him are necessary and should be made as soon as possible.

With great respect,
Your obt. Servt.
Saml. H. Butterworth
Supt.

Hon. James Guthrie,
Sec. Treasy.

(Copy)

Melter & Refiner's Department
New York, Nov. 20th, 1854

Sir

The practical operations of this department are much embarrassed in consequence of an insufficient supply of water. All the Water now used in the whole establishment is obtained through an opening of 2 inches diameter connected with the metre. The metre used is the largest size supplied by the croton company, but is not large enough to supply the amount of water which is capable of passing through the main pipe, which is 3 inches diameter.

To obtain a sufficient supply of water for the operations of refining, it is necessary to attach another metre of the same size as that now used, and supply the steam pumps (which is necessarily kept constantly in use) by means of the necessary pipes, stop-cocks, &c:, the cost of which including another metre will be about $1400. which is the lowest estimate from two parties.

Waiting authority to make the above named alterations, I remain,

Your obt. Servt.

Edward A. Mentz
Melter & Refiner

Sam'l. S. Butterworth, Esq.,
Superintendent.

Notice:

The Mint will be closed on Thursday next, the 23d. inst:, pursuant to the proclamation of the Governor of the Commonwealth designating it to be observed by the people, "as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise."

James R. Snowden.
Director

Mint of the United States,
Philada. Novr. 20, 1854.

Office of the Assistant Treasurer, U. S.

New York, Nov 18th 1854

Wm. Dan'l Sturgeon.
Supt. U.S. Mint.

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of Fifty Thousand Dollars, in Silver Coins, by "The Adams Express Co" in payment of Draft forwarded through them.

Very Respectfully
Your ob't Servant.
Jno. J. Cisco
Ass't Treas'r.

Received New York March 18. 1854
of the Treasurer of the U.S Assay Office
New York. Five boxes of gold bullion, Valued
at Two Hundred Ninety Five Thousand, Three
Hundred & fifty eight 41/100 dollars, which we
agree to deliver to the Treasurer of the U.S. Mint
Philadelphia at _____ Ch for $1.000.
we insuring against loss.

$295.358.41

John H. Thornton
for The Adams Express Co.

U. S. Assay Office, Treasurer's Department.

New-York, Novem. 18 1854

Sir

I have this day forwarded by the "Adams Express Company" per their receipt and my statement enclosed, Five boxes of gold bullion, Valued at Two Hundred and Ninety-five Thousand, Three Hundred and Fifty eight 41/100 Dollars ($295.358.41) as an additional Payment upon Treasury Draft for $. 500.000. in your favor.

Upon the arrival of the next Steamer from California, I shall be enabled to Transmit you the balance due on said draft.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt.

Daniel Sturgeon Esqr
Treasurer of U.S. Mint
Philadelphia.

Wm. J. Cleo
Treasurer

Post off Richmond Virg.
Nov 18 1854

Dr. Sir.

Be pleased to find Endorsed Parcell No 4543 on Dorsal & 6 $ 160 One Hundred and Sixty Dollars for which be pleased to Cause to be forwarded for the use of this Office at the earliest Practicable time, the Value of $100 in Cents and the balance of 60$ in three Cent Piece.

Very Respectfully
Yr obt Servt.
Thos B. Biggs. P.M.

$100 in Cents
60 in 3 Cent ps plate Key with the Cyphers.

To the
Treasurer
of the U.S. Mint.
Philada.

November 18th, 1.

Sir.

Your favor of 17th. inst. requesting the letter of Mr. Jessup accompanying the specimen of Ore from Georgia, has been received.

I regret that it was omitted in putting up my report; please find it enclosed.

I am,
With great respect,
Y. faithful Servt.
Farmin Rep. Snowden
Director

Hon: James Guthrie,
Secretary of Treasury,
Washington City:

Nov: 17th 4

Sir,

I have to acknowledge your favor of the 15th inst. and to comply with the request therein contained that the clerks in preparing the Statement of Mint operations for the last fiscal year omitted to include the branch at San Francisco. I have caused a corrected Statement to be prepared which is herewith enclosed. I also, as requested, transmit a Statement exhibiting the deposits and Coinage at all the mints from July 1st to the 30th of September last.

I will send Copies of the forms regulating which you have approved, to the several branches and the Assay office for their observance; and I hope also to be able to give such further instructions, as to details, as will further tend to insure faithfulness and accuracy in their operations, and protect the public interests and that of depositors.

I may here mention that there are some difficulties in the way of making a simple Statement of duties as applicable to all the institutions alike, from the fact of the diversity in the Construction of the buildings appurtenant to Mint operations, and the want of uniformity in the arrangement of the rooms devoted to the various operations upon the bullion, and the situation and Construction of the vaults of the establishments. Besides, there is a difference in their organization as relates to their officers, as for example,

4

Statement of the Deposits at the Mint U.S. and its Branches for 3rd. Quarter of 1861

GOLD DEPOSITS:

Description of Bullion:	Charlotte:	Dahlonega:	S. Francisco:	N. Orleans:	Philadelphia:	Totals:
Foreign Coin:	. . . .	. . . .	. . . .	3406.90	. . . .	3,406.90
Do. Bullion:	. . . .	. . . .	. . . .	4758.20	110,000.00	114,758.20
U.S. Coin:	. . . .	. . . .	. . . .	. . . .	. . . .	. . . .
Do. Bullion:	29,788.86	65,189.47	4,586,644.69	78397.89	9,468,957.90	14,225,958.81
Total Gold Deposits:	29,788.86	65,189.47	4,586,644.69	86561.99	9,578,957.90	14,344,117.41

SILVER DEPOSITS:

Coinage & Purchases:	. . . .	. . . .	. . . .	21,622.81	780,656.14	1,006,278.95
U.S. Bullion:	. . . .	. . . .	. . . .	319.81	64,226.80	64,546.61
Total Silver Deposits:	. . . .	. . . .	. . . .	21,942.62	844,882.94	1,070,825.56
Total Deposits:	29,788.86	65,189.47	4,586,644.69	108,504.61	10,423,840.84	15,414,942.97

* This item includes Foreign Coin.

Mint of the United States:
Nov. 27th.; 1861.

James Pollock
Director.

Statement exhibiting the Coinage at the Mint U.S and its Branches for the 3rd Quarter of 1854.

Denomination:	*Charlotte:		Dahlonega:		S. Francisco:		N. Orleans:		Philadelphia:		Totals:	
GOLD COINAGE:	Pieces:	Value:	Pieces:	Value:	Pieces:	Value:	Pieces:	Value:	Pieces:	Value:	Pieces:	Value:
Double Eagles:	. .	. .	. .	. .	70,500	1,410,000.	. .	. .	167,699	3,353,990.	238,199	4,763,990.
Eagles:	. .	. .	. .	. .	75,800	758,000.	8,500	85,000.	17,866	178,860.	101,966	1,019,860.
Half Eagles:	3,829	19,145.	12,439	62,195.	. .	. .	. .	. .	77,548	387,740.	93,816	469,080.
Three Dollars:	. .	. .	1,129	3,360.	. .	. .	13,000	39,000.	. .	. .	14,129	42,360.
Quarter Eagles:	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	8,000	20,000	143,070	357,675.	151,070	377,675.
Dollars:	. .	. .	2,935	2,935.	12,200	12,200.	. .	. .	200,798	200,798.	215,928	215,928.
Fine Stamped Bars:	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	1,960	6,529,667.	1,960	6,529,667.
Uncoined Bars:	. .	. .	. .	. .	834	1,960,762.	. .	. .	. .	. .	834	1,960,762.
Total Gold Coinage:	3,829	19,145.	16,494	68,490.	159,334	4,140,962.	29,500	144,000.	608,756	11,008,715.	817,913	15,879,312.
SILVER COINAGE												
Dollars:	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Half Dollars:	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	1,582,000	791,000.	80,000	40,000.	1,662,000	831,000.
Quarter Dollars:	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	358,000	89,000.	2,848,000	712,000.	3,206,000	801,000.
Dimes:	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	880,000	88,000.	880,000	88,000.
Half Dimes:	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	720,000	36,000.	. .	. .	720,000	36,000.
Trimes:	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Total Silver Coinage:	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	2,658,000	916,000.	3,808,000	840,000.	6,466,000	1,756,000.
COPPER COINAGE												
Cents:	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	700,000	7,000.	700,000	7,000.
Half Cents:	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Total Copper Coinage:											700,000	7,000.	700,000	7,000.

*No Coinage in July: **Total Coinage:** Pieces: 7,984,313 Value: 17,142,316.00

Mint of the United States: Nov. 17th: 1854. Saml. Ref. Snowden DIRECTOR.

Statement, exhibiting the Deposits at the Mint U.S. and its Branches for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1852.

Gold:	Charlotte:	Dahlonega:	S. Francisco:	N. Orleans:	Philadelp.	Total:
U.S. Coins: o.c. $					10,625.00	10,625.00
Foreign Coins:				126,572.00	652,116.00	778,688.00
U.S. Bullion:	241,313.75	352,683.16	4,032,827.12	1,518,804.00	44,221,959.00	50,365,687.03
Foreign Bullion:						
Total Gold:	241,313.75	352,683.16	4,032,827.12	1,687,818.00	45,413,506.00	51,728,148.03
Silver:						
Deposits & Purchs:				4,330,396.00	5,263,786.00	9,594,182.00
U.S. Bullion:				9,269.00	313,833.00	323,102.00
Total Silver:				4,339,625.00	5,577,619.00	9,917,284.00
Total Gold & Silver:	241,313.75	352,683.16	4,032,827.12	6,027,443.00	50,991,125.00	61,645,432.03

Statement exhibiting the Coinage at the Mint U.S. and its Branches for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1854.

GOLD COINAGE:

Denomination	Charlotte: Pieces	Charlotte: Value	Dahlonega: Pieces	Dahlonega: Value	*S. Francisco: Pieces	*S. Francisco: Value	New Orleans: Pieces	New Orleans: Value	Philadelphia: Pieces	Philadelphia: Value	Totals: Pieces	Totals: Value
Double Eagles:					19,818	396,360.	11,500.	230,000.	882,142	17,642,840.	[illegible]	18,259,200.
Eagles					48,026	480,260.	88,000	880,000.	142,106	1,421,060.	278,132	2,781,320.
Half Eagles:	45,522	227,610.	66,960	334,800	268	1,340.	46,000	230,000.	214,323	1,071,615.	373,073	1,865,365.
Three Dollars:									115,878	347,634.	115,878	347,634.
Quarter Eagles:	7,295	18,237.50	3,806	9,515.	246	615.	132,000	330,000.	932,696	2,331,740.	1,076,043	2,690,107.50
Dollars:			4,935	4,935.	2,432	2,432.	55,000	55,000	2,534,053	2,534,053.	2,596,420	2,596,420.
Fine stamped Bars:						5,862.51			5,555	20,241,450.26	5,555	20,247,312.77
Unparted Bars:						2,125,717.59						
Total Gold Coinage:	52,817	245,847½	75,701	349,250.	68,766	3,012,587.10	33[illegible]500	1,725,000.	4,826,753	45,590,392.20	5,353,561	50,923,076.86

SILVER COINAGE:

Denomination	Charlotte: Pieces	Charlotte: Value	Dahlonega: Pieces	Dahlonega: Value	*S. Francisco: Pieces	*S. Francisco: Value	New Orleans: Pieces	New Orleans: Value	Philadelphia: Pieces	Philadelphia: Value	Totals: Pieces	Totals: Value
Dollars:									40,250	40,250.	40,250	40,250.
Half Dollars:							4,102,000	2,051,000.	4,794,700	2,397,350.	8,896,700	4,448,350.
Quarter Dollars:							1,704,000	426,000.	20,172,000	5,043,000.	21,876,000	5,469,000.
Dimes:							2,230,000	223,000.	11,988,000	1,198,800.	14,218,000	1,421,800.
Half Dimes:							3,040,000	152,000.	15,460,000	773,000.	18,500,000	925,000.
Trimes:									400,000	12,000.	400,000	12,000.
Total Silver Coinage:							11,076,000	2,852,000	52,854,950	9,461,400.	63,930,950	12,316,400.

COPPER COINAGE:

Denomination	Charlotte: Pieces	Charlotte: Value	Dahlonega: Pieces	Dahlonega: Value	*S. Francisco: Pieces	*S. Francisco: Value	New Orleans: Pieces	New Orleans: Value	Philadelphia: Pieces	Philadelphia: Value	Totals: Pieces	Totals: Value
Cents:									7,207,788	72,077.88	7,207,788	72,077.88
Half Cents:									92,472	462.36	92,472	462.36
Total Copper Coinage:									7,300,260	72,540.24	7,300,260	72,540.24

Total Coinage: Pieces. 76,5[illegible],771 Value. $63,312,017.10

* Operations commenced April 3 1854.

Mint of the United States: Nov^r [illegible], 1854. James Ross Snowden Director.

[illegible]ember 17th 1854

Treasury Department
Nov. 17. 1854.

Sir

I have received yours
upon on the Specimen of ore received
from Georgia and will thank you
to return to the Department the letter
from the party which accompanied the
ore in order that he may be furnished
with a copy of the report.

I am very Respt
Your Ob Servt
Sec Treasury.

J. Ross Snowden Esq
Direct Mint.
Philada.

U.S. MINT GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE 1854/NOVEMBER

Mint of the United States, Philad.a Nov. 1. 1854

Dear Sir

In reporting the condition of the department under my immediate official supervision, for the past month; I have the satisfaction to inform you, that the persons employed in the department of the Engraver, have attended with fidelity to the work and duty respectively devolving on them, agreeably to the established regulations.

Having had occasion to speak of the want of a place (a closet or safe) for the safe keeping of those dies that are made or in process of making, and not delivered for coining as yet; I beg leave to repeat in writing, the reasons for such an addition to the furniture of the die-room. While I have every confidence in the fidelity and trustworthyness of the persons now employed therein: I still doubt the propriety of leaving materials so capable of perversion or misapplication, so much exposed as has hitherto been the case. The disparagement to the character of the Mint that might result from the casual or dishonest abstraction of any portion of the materials to which I refer, will upon reflection, I think be apparent: and although no disadvantage has yet accrued, we have sufficient cause not to trust too far to past experience for our safety.

Very Respectf.y Your
Most Ob.t Serv.t &c
James B. Longacre
Engraver

J. R. Snowden Esq.r
Director

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, November 1st 1854.

Sir,

The Doorkeepers, Messengers, Conductors and Watchmen having been placed under my charge, in subordination to the Director, with instructions to make a monthly report as to the attendance and fidelity of these employés, I have to state that the persons employed in the above named capacities, have been in regular attendance during the past month and have been faithful in the discharge of the duties you have prescribed for them.

Mr. L. L. Parker one of the Conductors, was excused from attendance for a few days on account of illness.

Mr. Jacob Walter (one of the Watchmen) is reported by the Capt. of the night watch to have been three quarters of an hour behind the regular time of attendance on the night of the 25th ult. but the explanation given by Mr. Walter for this absence is deemed satisfactory.

During the past month the conduct of the Watchmen (who have charge of the building during the night) has been particularly observed

and I have further to report that the important duty confided to them has been discharged with fidelity and care.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
A. B. Linderman
Director's Clerk

Hon. James Ross Snowden,
Director of the Mint.

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, Nov 1. 1854

Dear Sir

I have the pleasure to send you the Mayor gold medal which I have caused to be struck at the Mint at the Request of the Committee representing the Councils of this City.

I trust you will find them executed in a manner suited to the liberality of the City of Philad.a in thus expressing her appreciation of gallant services rendered in saving the lives of the passengers from the wreck of the San Francisco,

I am, with great respect
Your Ob.t Serv.t

James J. Boswell Esq.
Chairman, Committee
on Medals,
City Councils.

R. R. Snowden
Director

November 1st [illegible]

Sir,

I made yesterday the monthly examination required by the instructions from the Department. The following statement exhibits the amount of Coin in the vaults of the Treasury of the Mint at the close of the business of that day, corresponding with the balance as stated on the books of the institution, viz:

Gold	$1,441,063.86
Silver	740,047.60
Ordinary [illegible]	3,667.83
Total	$2,185,678.99

Also in the Office of the Assistant Treasurer of the U. States, including monies for the payment of Pensions, Interest on U. States Stock and Sums due certain Officers of the U. States on deposit here:

Gold & Silver $1,060,964.94.

corresponding with the balances as stated in the books of that Office.

In pursuance of your instructions I caused a Sale to be made of the old and useless machinery and implements of the Mint. The Sale amounted to $1,418.98, which

had been placed in the ordinary fund
of the Mint.

In consequence of the diminished supply
of bullion I have found it necessary to reduce
the operative force of the Mint. In the Melting
and Refining department I have dispensed
with seven hands and in the Coining department
three. I regret that this necessity is forced
upon me, but a regard to the public interest
required that such a reduction should
take place.

The force retained will be found sufficient
for the work we shall be called on to perform,
which will of course be less than was performed in view of the operations of the
Branch Mint at San Francisco and the
Assay Office at New York.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect
Your faithful servant,
James Ross Snowden
Director

Hon. James Guthrie,
Sec. of the Treasury,
Washington City

November 4.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 31st ult. with the enclosures stated.

In preparing Monthly and other reports for transmission to the Department exhibiting the operations of the Mint and its Branches, it has been customary to make the following distinction in describing the bullion deposited, viz:

Gold — Foreign Coin
Bullion
U.S. Coin (old)
U.S. Bullion

Silver

Deposites
U.S. Bullion parted from U.S. Gold.

As I wish to incorporate your statement of operations with the reports above referred to, you will please make such modifications in the form of the monthly statement you have presented, as will hereafter exhibit the description of deposits as above and also present such modified statement for the month of October.

J. F. Butterworth Esq.
Supt. Assay Office

J. R. S.

November 1st 4.

Sir,

The bill of Ann & Virginia returned by you for her signature is herewith enclosed duly receipted.

I am, very Respectfully
Ann Rose Saunders,
Librarian

Sam'l T. Butterworth, Esq.
Supt Addg Office,
N York

Phil Nov 1st 1853

Dear Sir,

In reply to the Secys letter of the 30th Ult, in relation to the Seignorage on the cents coin, I may state that some ten to fifteen years since, the Mint received the copper Blanchets from the manufacturer @ 28 cents per lb, and returned them coined at 41½ cts per lb making a seignorage of 48⅝ per cent

Lately the price paid was 30 cts and the price charged the same as before viz 41½ cents. making the seignorage 38⅛ per ct, I have as yet no specific proposition to make in relation to the Seignorage on the new coin, but I think it might safely be from 33⅓ to 40. per ct,

I am not yet satisfied in regard to the proportions of metal in the proposed alloy, but am in correspondence with manufacturers. & am receiving occasional samples of different alloys which will be tested as to their adaptation to coinage, I would much prefer being allowed some time for testing a large number of alloys, in order that we may exhibit the best to the public without subsequent alteration,

L R Snowden Esq
Director
U S Mint

L H. Booth
Mo & Ch
W & M

U. S. Mint

Office of Melter & Refiner

Nov. 1 1854

Dear Sir

I herewith respectfully report, that a more strict regard has been paid to the attendance of workmen in my department of the Mint since the 1st Oct., in conformity with your instructions. The number of my hands, including foremen, was 35 during the month, 7 of whom have been discharged in consequence of the diminution of business in the Mint. Since some of those discharged are superior in skill & industry & fidelity, I have given them certificates to that effect & stated the cause of their dismissal; & if the public service should warrant it, I hope that the best of them may be recalled at some future time. The number remaining is barely sufficient for the present & prospective work of this dept of the Mint.

The attendance of the men was somewhat irregular at the commencement of the month, but the knowledge that their delinquencies might be reported, & that strict regard to orders issuing from you through me is to be considered as essential to their holding their position have had a beneficial effect in producing more regularity & subordination. But one man absented himself for a day without apology or permission. Should this be repeated I shall report it to you.

Very truly yours

Da C. Booth

Melter & Refiner

J. R. Snowden Esq

Director, U. S. M.

U. S. Assay Office,
New York, Nov. 2, 1854.

Sir,

We propose to send you imported bullion to an amount equal to our payments in coin. This includes the deposits for coinage and also the fractional amounts paid in coin on deposit made for bars.

As the calculation of the October deposit will be completed to-morrow, we will delay our first remittance till that time, & will send the whole amount at once.

Very respectfully
Your obt. servt.
Sam'l. Butterworth
Supt.

Hon. J. R. Snowden,
Director of Mint

Copy

U.S. Assay Office
New York Nov 3rd 1854.

Dan'l. Butterworth, Esq.
Supt. U.S. Assay Office
Sir,

In the law establishing the offices of Assistant Assayer and Assistant Melter & Refiner, they were ranked next to the chief officers, and while their salaries were fixed 25 pr ct below that of those Officers, they were in an equal proportion placed above that of the highest clerk. The officers of the U.S. Assay office were allowed a higher compensation than Officers of the same grade at the Mint in Philadelphia; such an increase in pay being necessary to meet the increased cost of living here. The Clerks, Workmen & all employed in this office enjoy this advantage, the only exceptions being the Ass't Melter & Refiner and the Ass't Assayer. They are not only excluded from this benefit, but are superceded in their official position, by the increase of salary which has been given to those officers who.

originally underranked them. We repudiate any intention to draw invidious comparisons, but as our duties are no less responsible and onerous than originally appertained to the Offices, and as no deductions in the expenses of living are made in our special behalf, we appeal to you whether we should thus be passed over, and if we have not a just claim to what we ask - a restitution to our proper official position with corresponding increase of our Salaries.

We most respectfully submit our claims to you for consideration and solicit such action in the premises as shall best realize our desire.

We have the honor to be,
Yr obt Svts
(Signed) Andrew Mason
Asst Assayer

Clarance Abbott
Asst Melter & Refiner

United States Assay Office.
New York, Dec 8 1854

Sir

I enclose a communication from the Asst Assayer and Asst Melter & Refiner of this Office setting forth various reasons why their Salaries should be increased, they complain also that they are "superseded in their official functions". You will oblige me if you will lay this letter before the Secry of the Treasy accompanied by such suggestions as you may think proper. I am satisfied that their Salaries should be increased and as that can be done only by the action of Congress upon the request of the Secry of the Treasy I hope you will give the matter early attention.

I am with great respect
Your Obt Servt
Sam F. Butterworth
Supt.

Hon'ble
J. Ross Snowden
Director &c

Mr Boerum on Thursday next are in
N. J.

4

United States Assay Office.
New York, Nov. 3, 1854.

Sir,

I have to call attention to the following:

1. The weigh clerk reports that the large scale needs some attention from Mr. Boerum. It turns so very slowly that a great deal of time is lost in weighing. On examining the knife-edge we find that it has not a continuous bearing. Either the knife-edge or the agate is concave, so that the bearing is at the extremities. Whether this causes the difficulty I know not.

2. I enclose check for $32.50 to pay Ann Frazier ——— 19.50
Abm. Miller " 1$. ——— 19.50
which please pay when called for.
I will make arrangements in a few days to pay off some more of the Philad^a. bills, those of the Mint included. — No receipts need be taken from the above parties. Abm. Miller is advised to call on you.

3. Our stock of Silver dollars is exhausted. Parties will insist on making deposits, even though fully informed that they would do better to send their silver to the Mint & sell it at $1.22½ per ounce. Mr. Cisco says he needs at least $10,000 in Silver dollars.

4. The locked pans sent from Phil^a. are of no use to us and it is needless to send more. Owing to the construction of our buildings, (the Weigh room being in a different building & on a different floor from the Melting room & Vault,) we find it impossible to transport so great a weight as a nest of these pans. In addition to this the pans work so stiffly that the grains are spilled in the effort to open them; and finally they afford us security, as by beginning at the bottom they can be opened without a key. We have had a quantity of copper lined boxes fitted with covers & spring locks. These answer a much better purpose.

Very respectfully,

Sam F. Butterworth
Supt.

Hon. H. R. Snowden,
Director of the Mint.

P.S. Yours of the 1st. respecting form of report will receive immediate attention.
S. F. B.

November 4th 4

Sir,

I have your favor of yesterday. I have called the attention of Mr. Bowman to the remarks you make in reference to the large balance in the weigh room. He will go over to your city on Wednesday and make an examination of it and correct any defects which may appear.

The check for $\$32\frac{50}{100}$ enclosed to me will be applied as requested. There are some further bills due the Mint from your office, for porcelain pots &c. &c. which I have requested should be made out and forwarded to you.

I am sorry to learn that the locked pans are not satisfactory. If they were used as a nest, would not the objection you speak of as to the weight be in great part removed? It was certainly not intended that they could be opened from the bottom without the keys. The samples I have in my office are not liable to that objection. As to their working stiffly I suppose that would be removed by use. But as you regard the copper lined boxes with covers and no spring locks as more secure and convenient in view of the relative situation of the weigh room, deposit room and vault, I will omit to send you any more of the pans, and will rely upon your own arrangement for the security of the bullion and the convenient disposition of the deposits.

I will consider the subject of establishing you with a Coining
dollars, and will perhaps be able to say something decisive on
Monday or Tuesday next. I believe I have already explained
the idea to you that it seems impossible to strike a Coin
which is no longer used in Circulation, and that we
should discourage but demande as much as we
can. But I am anxious to oblige you and will
re-examine the subject.

I am, Dear Sir, Respectfully

James Ross Snowden
Director!

James H. Bullmarsh Esq.
Supt. Assay Office
New York.

P.S. I think it will be convenient for
us to furnish you, in the melting & refining
department, with one or two or perhaps
three, experienced hands if you desire them
& may say to you that I have already done
what reduced the force employed, and shall
perhaps make further reductions. If you
need any workmen & will let me know shall
send them.

J. R. S.

United States Assay Office.

New York, Nov 4 1854

Dr Sir

You will oblige me if you will obtain the consent of the Secy of the Treasy for the employment of W. O. DeForest at this Office for the purpose of calculating & stamping fine bars at the same compensation which he has heretofore rec'd at the Mint for like service.

Respy

Wm F. Buttersworth
Supt.

Hon'd
Jas Ross Snowden
Director

Racine County Bank.

Racine, Wis. Nov 6th 1854

To James Roosevelt Esq
Director RC Dead Sir:

I have received your letter
of the ____ inst. with ____ enclosures as stated.

Enclosed please find for collection and my account, bills
as stated below.

I am, very respectfully,
Your obt & st.
Geo Northrop Cay

My Draft No	$1000	
Bears return me silver. ¼ Dolls.	7000	700 1/4
Dimes — 1511 . ½ Dime 1100	250	100 ½
3 Cts. say about	50.	200 1/4
by express &c		

Mint of the United States
Phila Nov. 8, 1853.

It is directed that in making
out the warrants and paying the
same, the value of the silver contain
in the gold shall be included
in the value of the gold, and paid
as such. The memorandums will
state as heretofore the value of
the silver parted for the benefit of the
depositor. James Ross Snowden
Director.

P.S. The silver will be calculated
at 1.21 cents per oz. standard
fineness.

Nov. 8th 4

Sir,

I have been disappointed in not receiving the bullion which you stated was to be sent in part payment of the draft for $500,000.

In regard to the mode of transportation I have to say that in addition to the authority heretofore given to send the bullion by Adams & Co Express, I have this morning received a letter from the Sec. of the Treasury in which he states, "I have to say that it is deemed advisable to continue the employment of Messrs Adams & Co. in transporting specie &c."

I trust you will regard this authority as sufficient on this point.

I therefore request that you will cause your [illegible]

November 8, 4.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 3d inst. I have to state that to obviate the inconvenience experienced by Storekeepers and others in your City for want of "Silver change", we will with great pleasure send Silver coin in exchange for Gold in any amount and in mixed denominations of the same value. The Gold coin desired to be exchanged may be sent to the Mint by any of the Express Co's, and Silver coins as above will be returned by the same means.

I send you a copy of my last Annual Report to the President of the U. States, in which you will find my Opinion on the subject of issueing small Bills by our Banks.

I am, very Respectfully,
Your Obt Servt
James Ross Snowden.
Director.

Mr Thos. Hunstings,
New York City

EAST AND WEST INDIA DOCK COMPANY.

Western Dock.—Warehouse No. 11

9 day of November 1854

Order No. List No.

Re Weighed ~~and~~ after Bulking. 70 Bal.s of [illegible]

To the Order of

Per Anna Captn. Eppert

From Philadelphia Rotn. No. 54/2940

Mark and Number.	Weight. Cwt.	qrs.	lbs.		Mark and Number.	~~Weight.~~ Cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
GS	Gross					Tare		
1	3	.	18				1	22
2	2	3	10				1	14
3	3	.	5				1	15
4	3	.	24				1	26
5	3	.	14				1	20
6	3	.	18				1	25
7	3	.	13				1	18
8	2	3	17				1	22
9	3	1	5				1	19
10	3	.	18				1	19
10	30	3	23			4	1	4
11	3	.	20				1	22
2	3	2	2				1	16
3	2	3	18				1	23
4	3	.	16				1	22
5	3	1	9				1	22
6	3	1	4				1	25
7	3	1	7				2	1
8	3	.	17				1	25
9	3	.	8				1	13
20	3	1	3				1	23
10	32	.	23			4	1	24
20	63	.	18			8	3	.

Foreman.

Examined Clerk.

EAST AND WEST INDIA DOCK COMPANY.

[illegible] Dock.—Warehouse No. 4

9 day of [illegible] 18[illegible]

Order No. List No.

Weighed and 70 Bal[illegible] of [illegible] [illegible]

To the Order of

Per [illegible] Captⁿ. [illegible]

From Rotⁿ. No. 54 2940

Mark and Number.	Weight. Cwt.	qrs.	lbs.		Mark and Number.	Weight. Cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
G S	Gross					Tare		
21	3	.	14				1	18
2	3	1	2				1	17
3	3	.	26				1	22
4	3	.	23				1	17
5	3	1	5				1	18
6	3	.	7				1	19
7	3	1	1				1	21
8	3	.	22				1	21
9	3	.	15				1	15
30	3	.	8				1	18
10	31	3	11			4	.	18
31	3	.	16				1	18
2	3	1	9				1	6
3	2	3	26				1	21
4	2	3	25				1	24
5	3	.	5				1	19
6	3	.	3				1	15
7	3	.	12				1	21
8	3	.	1				1	24
9	3	.	5				1	20
40	3	.	8				1	16
10	30	2	26			4	.	16
20	62	2	9			8	1	6
20	63	.	18			8	3	.
40	125	2	27			17	.	6

Foreman.

Examined Clerk.

EAST AND WEST INDIA DOCK COMPANY.

Western Dock.—Warehouse No. 4

9 day of [illegible] 1854

Order No. List No.

Weighed and 70 Brl. of [illegible]

To the Order of

Per Anna Captn.

From Rotn. No. 54 / 2940

Mark and Number.	Weight. Cwt.	qrs.	lbs.		Mark and Number.	~~Weight.~~ Cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
GS	Gross					Tare		
41	3	.	15				1	22
2	3	1	3				2	1
3	2	3	24				1	18
4	3	.	2				1	24
5	3	.	3				1	25
6	2	3	18				1	18
7	3	.	7				1	25
8	3	.	12				1	21
9	3	.	21				1	23
50	3	.	1				1	18
10	30	2	22			4	1	27
57	3	.	3				1	20
2	3	.	4				1	21
3	2	3	25				1	18
4	3	.	15				1	21
5	3	.	16				1	24
6	3	1	2				1	21
7	3	.	14				1	20
8	3	.	25				1	25
9	3	1	2				1	24
60	3	1	.				1	21
10	31	1	22			4	1	19
20	62	.	16			8	3	18
40	125	2	27			17	.	6
60	187	3	15			25	3	24

_____ *Foreman.*

Examined _____ *Clerk.*

EAST AND WEST INDIA DOCK COMPANY.

Western Dock.—Warehouse No. 11

9 day of [illegible] 1854

Order No. List No.

Weighed and 70 [illegible] of [illegible]

To the Order of

Per Anna Capt.

From Rot. No. 54

2944

Mark and Number.	Weight. Cwt.	qrs.	lbs.		Mark and Number.	~~Weight.~~ Cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
G S	Gross					Tare		
61	3	.	21				1	20
2	3	1	7				1	17
3	3	.	21				1	21
4	3	2	1				1	24
5	3	.	17				1	20
6	3	.	8				1	18
7	3	.	21				1	18
8	3	1	3				1	16
9	3	1	16				1	17
70	3	.	27				1	20
10	32	2	2			4	.	23
60	187	3	15			25	3	24
70	220	1	17			30	.	19

[illegible] ~~Foreman.~~

Examined [illegible] Clerk.

Sir,

I hold a Ground Rent of the
year 1803, payable in Sp. Pistoles, and
which I should therefore, be obliged to
you, if you would annex their Value
as determined at the Mint – and return
it back to me, for Bloods Dispatch, with
your appreciation annexed hereto –

The reading of the Deed is, –
"On a Yearly rent charge of twelve Spanish
Pistoles of fine gold, each weighing
4 penny weight & 6 grains, or so much
lawful money of Penn.ª as shall be
sufficient to purchase the same".

Yrs very respectfy
John K. Watson
Treas.ª of Rail Road con.ª Green Spg
Philad.ª Nov 17/54

1803, of full weight,
3.90 at the mint; but
in the deed, 4 dwt. 6grs.
what worn by circulation,
ual in our states;
d be worth $3.82.

A Spanish pistole of 1803, of full weight, would now yield $3.90 at the mint; but the weight specified in the deed, 4 dwts. 6grs. implies a piece somewhat worn by circulation, such as was then usual in our States; such a piece would be worth $3.82.

Treasury Department
Nov. 10. 1854.

Sir

In reply to yours of the 8th instant which was duly received I have to say, that, under all the circumstances it is deemed advisable to continue the employment of Messrs. Adams & Co. in transporting Specie for the Department.

You will be pleased to take the Security as heretofore in such a sum as you may deem proper —

I am very Respt.
Your Obt. Servt.
Sec'y of the Treasury

J. R. Snowden Esq
Director of the Mint
Philada.

Nov. 16th 4

Sir,

I have your letter of the 14th inst with the enclosures stated. I have to request that you will present plans and an estimate of the probable expense which may be incurred in remedying the inconveniences presented by Messrs Cisco and Kent. When these are received I will present the subject to the Treasury Department. I would suggest that it is advisable to postpone any alteration in the basement wall or other change in the structure of the building until the approval of the Department is obtained.

I am, very Respectfully

James Ross Snowden
Director.

Saml. F. Butterworth Esqr.
Supt. Assay Office
New York.

P.S. David Cornell will report himself to you for duty on Monday next.

Nov. 16.th 4

Sir,

I have prepared, with the approbation of the Secretary of the Treasury, General Regulations for the Mint, its Branches, and the Assay Office. A Copy of which I herewith send you, and have to request that you will cause them to be observed and enforced in your institution.

Where Regulations are not intended to exclude the adoption of such further Orders and Directions in respect to the Custody of the precious Metals and the Operations of the Assay Office, as your experience may suggest, or such as the peculiar arrangement of your Office may render necessary. On the Contrary I recommend the adoption of such further Regulations as may, in your judgment, tend to ensure faithfulness and accuracy in the Operations of your office, and guard the public interest — embracing also that of each depositor. Communicate to me your Superintending Change.

I am very Respectfully

Sam.l H. Butterworth Esq.r
Supt. Assay Office
New York.

Sam.l Roberts
Director.

Treasury Department
November 16th 1854

Sir — Your letter of the 11th Inst. was duly received. A difficulty arises in the payment of the bill of Messrs Maher & Sandis, from the fact that there is to the credit of the Appropriation for the incidental and contingent expenses of the Branch Mint at San Francisco, a balance of less than $4.000.

The only mode which suggests itself to the Department, by which the account can be settled is, to authorise the payment of the amount from the contingent fund of the Mint proper, for the present, to be restored to that appropriation, at some future period.

If therefore you see no objection to this course, you are authorised to cause the amount to be paid to Messrs Maher & Sandis from that appropriation.

I return herewith the papers received with your letter above referred to —

I am
Very Respectfully
James Guthrie
Secretary of the Treasury

J. Rob Snowden Esq
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

November 16 [illegible] 4

S[illegible]

I have received your favor of the 14th inst. [illegible] with [illegible] a box containing a specimen of ore from [illegible] [illegible] which I have caused to be examined [illegible]
[illegible] It has every essential characteristic of [illegible] extensively worked in this State (Penn.a) and known [illegible] the Fossiliferous Iron ore. It is a very valuable [illegible] of iron, and containing [illegible] be able [illegible] of lime, often carries sufficient amount for its own fluxing. Being [illegible] a stratified [illegible] of tolerably uniform thickness its quantity can be calculated under a given surface of ground. Different beds are usually found in the same rock formation, some rich in iron, others in limestone. The specimens sent are of medium quality. It is scarcely necessary to add that they are entirely free from the precious metals.

I have the honor to be
with great respect,
Your faithful servant,
James [illegible] [illegible]
Director.

Hon. James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury
Washington City.

Treasury Department
Nov 15 1854

Sir

I have duly received your letter of the 14th instant, with its enclosure the table of coinage, I herewith return, as I do not find in it any notice of the coinage at San Francisco. Please correct this omission if you have the means and again transmit the statement.

I have affixed my approval to the regulations prepared by you and you will therefore transmit copies for the observance of the Assay office and Branch Mints. I am bound to say however in doing so that the regulations are yet in my opinion defective in several particulars.

I am very Respy
James Guthrie Sec Treasy

J Ross Snowden Esqr
Director Mint Phila

P.S. Please bring the coinage statements down to 30 Sept.

184

4) 69.72
17 43
18

4) 69 ~~7~~0
1725
18
1743

1743
4
69,7 2

amt. 1743

R $69.72

Mint of the U. S. Philad.a Nov.

Dear Sir

In conformity with a suggestion from yourself, I desire to submit some views in relation to that branch of the public service, which is placed under my peculiar supervision as Engraver of the Mint.

The duty assigned by law to my office is the "preparation and engraving of all the dies, with the legal devices and inscriptions used in the coinage" &c. In the apportionment of this duty according to its proper and obvious responsibilities, it affords me pleasure to believe that your views concur entirely with my own: and this assurance has made me ambitious so to regulate the operations required, as to give the greatest efficiency, and to introduce every improvement of which this department can be fairly regarded as susceptible.

In this connection I have felt that the preparation and finish of the working dies, required a closer and more constant supervision than I was able to give under the position assigned me, as determined by other duties.

It would be of advantage to the appearance of the coinage in my view, if the dies could be finished under the inspection generally of one possessed of sufficient skill as an engraver to see and decide that no detriment to their artistic character should be sustained in the grinding and polishing, required to fit them for the coining press. Heretofore there has been no person attached to my department, or to the mint, qual-

-ified officially or practically, to whom I could have entrusted such a charge, even if I had been authorised or instructed so to do.

The laws governing the Mint, provide that, "whenever any officer of the Mint shall be temporarily absent ~~from the~~ on account of sickness or any other sufficient cause, it shall be lawful for the Director, with the consent of the said officer, to appoint some person attached to the Mint to act in the place of such officer during his absence": &c. Since my occupation of the office of engraver, I have been so favoured as not to have required the application of this legal provision, to supply my absence; but had it been otherwise, I know not how it could have been carried into effect, there being no person attached to the Mint qualified to discharge the duties of the engraver; and to whose appointment temporarily to fulfil those duties, I could consistently and legally have consented. The possibility, however, of such a contingency, in the present increased operations of the Mint; seems to call for some provision by which it can be promptly met; by attaching to the establishment some person having the requisite qualifications.

That more labour in the department of the Engraver will hereafter be required; appears to me a conclusion inevitable from the present state of the general operations of the Mint: The number of working dies, called for during the present year, is more than four hundred beyond any previous year and may be regarded as sufficiently indicative of the coming demand.

Apart therefore from any demands likely to be made upon the engraver for the execution of any new designs for the regular coinage; or any new denominations that may be required: there appears to me sufficient reason for the employment of some person attached to the department of the engraver, possessing the skill required for the duties and contingencies to which I have adverted.

If after due consideration, you should see cause to concur in this view: for such a position as I have designated, I should take great pleasure in recommending for permanent employment in the Mint, Mr. Peter F. Cross of Williamsburg N.Y. as a professional engraver; and as being better acquainted with, and skilled in the kind of work required for the coinage than any other person, whose services would be available, with whom I am acquainted: and I have every reason to believe him of unexceptionable moral character.

With regard to the other persons, already employed in the work of preparing or finishing dies; there appears an obvious propriety in placing them, at least while so employed, under the more immediate direction of the Engraver, as the Officer who is legally

responsible for the operations in which they are engaged.

And so in regard to the machinery and apparatus specially applicable to those operations: Such as the furnaces, tubs &c. required for hardening and tempering, the press required for hubbing; the basins and other fixtures used for grinding and polishing the dies: and the lathes with the tools and implements necessary for forming or reducing the dies. These being essential to the duty devolved upon the Engraver, of "preparing and engraving" the dies.

If the views thus submitted strike you as sufficiently reasonable and expedient — it will gratify me to aid in any way that I can in carrying them out with the least possible disturbance of, or interference with, any arrangements already existing: and should your estimate of their propriety coincide with my own it will be a source of peculiar satisfaction.

With very sincere respect &c
I remain —

James B. Longacre
Engraver

J. R. Snowden Esq.r
Director of the Mint

Mint of the united States.
Philada Nov. 14. 1803.

Dear Sir,

I have duly considered your letter of — inst. Concurring in the views you express & authorize you to employ Mr. Peter St. Croix of Williamsburg N.Y. to assist you in the duties pertaining to your office of Engraver & to fix his compensation at $3,00 p. day, payable Monthly. He may be placed on the roll as a Foreman or such other designation as you think fit, subject to my sanction.

As the Law enjoins upon you the duty of preparing and engraving all the dies used in the Coinage of the Mint, it is for you that the work done upon them should be considered your own subscription. I have also to say that the workmen employed in preparing the dies may be considered as acting under your orders and subject to your directions.

I have to request that you will keep a Register of the dies, as well those issued to the Chief Coiner

of the Mint as those prepared for the Branch Mints. Also a description of the stamps of the gold bars. As working dies should be used except such as pass through the hands, you will please make a report to me at the end of the year, of the operations of your department especially stating the number and denomination of dies made and used in the Mint and the Branch Mints.

I am, very respectfully
your obt. Servant
and friend,
James Pollock
Director

James B. Longacre
Engraver Chief of the Mint,
Present.

From Supdt. Assay office.
Novr. 14, 1854.

Rec'd Novr. 15.

Enclosing letters from Treasurer
Melter & Refiner & himself.
Difficulty & danger attending
transfer from Weigh room to the
Melting room at this office – the
remedy – and generally thereon.

U. S. Assay Office, Treasurer's Department.

New-York November 13 1854

Sir

The California Steamers now arrive quickly. Each Steamer is likely to bring to this Office from Forty to Sixty Thousand ounces of bullion.

These deposits are received upon us on the day of their arrivals, and as soon as weighed in the Weigh-room, have now to be carried by hand across an alley and up a flight of Stairs, in the open air, to the melting room. Then Turned to the Weigh-room after melting, and again Transported in the same manner to the Treasurer's Vault, which is located in the melting room.

The great weight of metal to be thus Transported, renders necessary some other means than the employment of workmen. These men are generally occupied with their proper duties just when their services are required in the Weigh-room.

Delay is thus occasioned, and even when the men can be spared for this service, much time is required of Officers & Clerks to guard the metals in its Transit from one office to the other

But in addition to the inconvenience of this mode of Transferring bullion, I do not consider it safe. Already an accident has occurred to the deposits in transitu, by which several

distinct parcels of dust were mixed together, and nearly an ounce of gold was lost.

In Winter, when the alley and Stairway are encumbered with Snow and ice, such accidents will be much more likely to occur.

It is absolutely necessary, therefore, that some method be devised for the safe, convenient and expeditious Transfer of the bullion between the front and back buildings.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
John J. Ellis
Treasurer.

S J Butterworth Esq
Superintendent
U.S Assay Office.

U.S. assay Office
Melter & Refiners Department
New York Nov 15th 1854

Sir,

I beg leave to call your attention to the want of some suitable means for taking heavy goods or bullion, in and out of the back building connected with this Office. At present it is necessary to lower all the Carboys of Nitric acid through the Area to the cellar floor, by means of a rope passed through the handles of the Carboys, and as the handles are made of rope and continually become weaker by nitric acid which accidently gets upon them, accidents occasionally occur of a serious nature. A few days since the handle of the Carboy broke out while being lowered down, and consequently the Carboy was broken and the acid lost. Fortunately the men who were receiving it below had at the moment stepped aside, otherwise they would doubtless have lost their lives or been seriously injured by the corrosive acid. The quantity of acid which has and to be taken into the building is from 20 to 30 Carboys per day, and you will thus perceive the necessity of some improvement on this method of getting it on to

the platform of the hoistway. The same inconvenience is felt, in regard to all other heavy goods which pass in and out of the building, and I consider it highly important that we should have direct access to the hoistway from the yard without being obliged to first take them up one flight of stairs, or lower them to the floor below, and I know of no plan by which this could be effected with so little expense and so great convenience, as by cutting a small door through three courses of the granite base which is under the south wall of the hoistway. The upper course of granite would not have to be disturbed, and as this is very heavy I have no doubt but that it has abundant strength to support the wall above. This however should be determined by competent architects, and if in their judgment it will be safe to make this alteration, it is highly important that it should be made at the earliest moment.

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servt

Edward H Kent
Melter & Refiner

United States Assay Office.

New York, Nov. 14, 1854.

Sir,

I enclose a communication made to me by the Teasurer of this Office, setting forth the inconvenience, and risk under which the transfers of bullion have now to be made between the Weigh-room & the Melting-room.* In accordance with the 7th regulation, I have, in conjunction with the Teasurer and the Melter & Refiner, made a careful examination of the premises, & have satisfied myself that the difficulties stated by Mr. Cisco are serious, and that a remedy must be provided.

I am also satisfied, from my own observation & from the statement of the Melter & Refiner, the ~~the~~ three furnaces of the deposit-melting room are insufficient to perform the melting with that dispatch which the interest of our depositors requires. To remedy all these evils I have therefore determined upon the following arrangement.

* I also enclose a letter from the Melter & Refiner upon the necessity of an alteration in the Warrant.

The deposit-melting is to be performed in the three furnaces heretofore used for fine gold and two additional ones to be erected on the same wall, viz. the West wall of the third floor. The present deposit-melting furnaces are to be used for fine gold.

The middle window of the Weigh-room opening upon the yard is to be converted into a door, through which the cars, loaded with locked pans & boxes containing the deposits, will be drawn to the hoistway. The only opening to the hoistway, however, being on the level of the basement floor, nine or ten feet below the flagging of the yard, I have, after consulting Mr. Conover the Master who erected the building, directed an opening to be cut through the side of the hoistway, sufficient to permit the loaded cars to be drawn upon the platform for the purpose of being hoisted to the Melting room on the third floor. I may add that by this arrangement an expense of at least $800 will be saved, by dispensing with separate hoisting machines.

To save the labor and delay of returning the melts from the 3d floor to the Weigh-room, & bringing them back for delivery to the Melter & Refiner, and also for the purpose of having a proper supervision of the melting of deposits and of the loss accruing thereon, I propose that an additional clerk be allowed to the Treasurer to be styled Clerk of the Melting room, who shall take charge of all deposits received from the Weigh-room, deliver the same for melting, superintend the casting of the ingots, the gathering the grains, & the stamping the ingots with their proper numbers. I propose that this clerk shall be stationed in the Melting-room; that he be furnished with a balance, upon which he shall make the second weighing of deposits, & that this weighing shall be in the presence of the Melter & Refiner (or his Assistant,) to whom the bullion is thereupon delivered, - each entering the weights in separate books & comparing results, as is done at the Mint on deliveries of ingots & clippings. — With each deposit received by the Clerk of the Melting-room from the Weigh-room will be a card containing number name & weight, from which he will transcribe to his weigh-book, and to these cards he will add the weight after melting & return them to the Weigh-clerk who will transcribe the second weight to his weigh-book. These clerks will compare their books daily.

I have spoken above of the clerk of the Melting-room as an additional clerk to the Treasurer. In point of fact no increase of clerks would be necessary. There are now two clerks in the Way-room; but with the arrangement proposed one of them could without detriment be transferred to the Melting-room. It will be necessary however to increase the force of Melters, and three or four additional hands will be required. An increase in the capacity of our deposit-melting room is the more necessary as, owing to the arrival of the California steamers immediately at this port, the bullion is all passed upon us in one day, each depositor being anxious to realize the proceeds at the earliest possible moment.

I apprised the Department sometime since of the necessity of putting iron gratings to the lower windows of the Custom House through which there is now free access to the Alley & yard of the Assay Office. Until this is done I am obliged to keep on duty two extra door-keepers.

Very respectfully,
Your obt. Servt.
Sam'l. R. Buttenworth
Supt

Wm. J. R. Snowden,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia.

Franklin Bank of Portage County.

Franklin Mills, Ohio 14 Nov 1854

James R. Brown Esqr. ~~Cashier~~ Director &c

Dear Sir.

Your favor of the .... is received with Enclosure.

I hand you my ck 1182 $2000 New York for which please send me at your earliest convenience Gold

20s	1500
10s & 5s	500

Very Resp

Chas. Perkins Jr

Office Assistant Treasurer U.S.
Boston Nov 14, 1854

Sir

Yours of the 11th is rec'd.
The Silver coin sent by you was very
well assorted and is perhaps as
convenient as it would have been
if divided as I requested.

Your Obt Svt

Thomas A. Brand
Assistant Treasurer
U.S.
Boston

James R. Snowden Esq
Supt of U.S. Mint
Philadelphia Pa

Treasury Department
Nov. 12. 1854.

Sir

I send by this mail a Box containing a specimen bar ore with a note from the person from whom it was received. I will thank you (unless it be inconvenient to do so) to comply with the wishes of the party and to return his note to this office with the result of the assay.

I am very Resp.
James Guthrie
Sec Treasury.

J. R. Snowden Esq
Mint of the United
States
Philada

Statement of Deposits and Coinage

At the Branch Mints at New Orleans, Dahlonega & the Assay Office N.Y. for October 1854

& Charlotte

Deposits

Description of Bullion	Branch Mint New Orleans	Branch Mint Dahlonega	Branch Mint Charlotte	Assay Office New York (from Oct. 10th)
Foreign Coin	----------	----------	----------	----------
Foreign Bullion	$3.435.89	----------	----------	$4.869.00
U.S. Bullion	26.140.12	$21.132.70	$61.228.26	1.594.511.02
Total Gold	$29.576.01	$21.132.70	$61.228.26	$1.599.380.02
Silver				
Foreign Coin	$5.745.15	----------	----------	$3.419.16
Foreign Bullion	4.022.33	----------	----------	----------
U.S. Coin (old standard)	14.728.86	----------	----------	----------
U.S. Bullion	175.34	----------	----------	12.253.31
Total Silver	$24.671.58	----------	----------	$17.674.47

Coinage

Denomination	Pieces	Value	Pieces	Value	Pieces	Value	Pieces	Value
Half Eagles	----------	----------	3687	$18.435	3.261	$16.305	----------	----------
Three Dollar	11.000	$33.000	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------
Bars	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	100	$369.780.78
Total Gold	11.000	$33.000	3.687	$18.435	3.261	$16.305	100	$369.780.78
Half Dollars	500.000	250.000	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------
Quarter Dollars	300.000	75.000	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------
Total Silver	800.000	$325.000	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------
Total Gold & Silver	811.000	$358.000	3687	$18.435	3.261	$16.305	100	$369.780.78

payable in Bars	$1.517.203.92
payable in Coin	99.850.57
	1.617.054.49

November 13, 4

Sir, The enclosed Statement exhibits the operations of the Branch Mints at New Orleans, Dahlonega, Charlotte and the Assay Office at New York, for the Month of October 1854.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your faithful servant.
Comm R. M. Saunders,
Director.

Hon James Guthrie,
Sec. of the Treasury,
Washington City,

U. S. Assay Office,
New York, Nov 13 1854

Sir

We need the services of an experienced granulator; Prof Kent informs me that David Cornell has recently been discharged from the Mint and that he would prefer him to any other person. If you can ascertain the whereabout of Cornell you will oblige me if you will send him on, let him come prepared to remain. Our melting furnaces are unequal to the public demand. I have directed two additional to be put up which I hope may meet your approval.

Respy
Sam'l Ruggles
Supt

New
Jas. Ross Snowden
Director

Nov 13 '9

My dear Sir,

I wished to see you this morning in order to say that on a re-consideration of the question of the bond, it seems to be expected that *security* should be given. I have therefore concluded to wait until your return from New York when we can have a conference on the subject.

I send however, for your information and that of your partners, the bond which I prepared on Saturday; after you have had some understanding with the other gentlemen concerned we will be the better able to arrange the matter satisfactorily on your return.

I am, my Dr Sir, Very truly & Respy
James Ross Snowden

Edw. Sandford Esq.
Adams & Co's Express
New York

P.S. Please return the bond.

Mint of the United States Philad.a Nov. 13. 1834

Dear Sir

Having examined the Reducing Lathe offered to the Mint by the executors of the late Mr. Wright of New York: I am able to state that it appears to be in perfect order, and well adapted to aid the engraver in the execution of original dies for coins or medals: It ought however to be cleaned and packed by a skillful mechanician, which will cost about $20. — The person who was engaged in its construction and who appears to be competent and reliable, is willing to undertake this duty.

The price at which it is offered to the Mint ($250.) is certainly much below its original cost; which I am satisfied could not have been much less than $500. —

The Mint is in possession of a similar machine; but as this possesses some advantages; I deem its acquisition by the government, of importance, in view of any work requiring its employment hereafter; and should it pass into other hands, there is no probability that it could be obtained on terms so favourable as those now offered.

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servt &c.

James B. Longacre
Engraver

J. R. Snowden Esqr.
Director

Directed Mr. Longacre to purchase the Lathe as requested.
J. R. S.

Trenton Nov 13th 1834.

Danl Stinson Esq.

Treas: U.S. Mint,

Sir,

We have received your esteemed favor of the 10th inst. and take note thereof.

Owing to the falling off of the demand for Copper Coin, we have now on hand a large amount, nearly $15.000.

We therefore prefer to wait awhile, until you can remit the amount of our bills unpaid, to increasing our Stock of Cents.

There has been no reduction in the price of raw Copper for more than a year past - until within a short time, since we believe, our last Shipment of Planchets.

It has been an intention to reduce the price of Planchets, on the decline in the raw Copper, & now purpose to charge 38 cents, for what you may order, until a further decline may warrant an

on making a still further reduction.

Hoping the foregoing propositions may meet your approval —

We remain.

Very Respectfully

Yours.

Goelet Bros & Co

U. S. Assay Office, Treasurer's Department.

New-York, November 13 1854

Sir

I forwarded to you on the 9th inst. per Adams Express Company, two boxes of gold bullion and two boxes of silver bullion, valued at One Hundred Thousand One Hundred & Seventy seven 26/100 Dollars, the receipt of which you will please acknowledge, and enclose me the usual Mint Receipts therefor.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt.

Daniel Sturgeon Esqr
Treasr U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

John J. Cisco
Treasurer.

Sir

A compn. of ass. of the gold bars you sent us has been made & I am happy to state that the results warrant as good a coincidence as practical operations & reporting will allow.

Yours Resp.

J. R. C.

M. A. S.

Nov 11, 1834

S. F. Butterworth

Supt. &

N. Y.

Copy

December 10, [illegible]

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 10th inst. with the enclosed [illegible]. The [illegible] of your monthly and weekly reports [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible].

I have this day received a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury in which he states that the temporary employment of [illegible] to be Calculator and [illegible] at the Assay Office in New York, at a salary of $4 per day, Sundays excepted, is hereby authorized.

I am, very Respectfully,

[illegible]

Director.

Hon. [illegible] Esq.

Supt. Assay Office

N. York.

P.S. I will in accordance with your request ask the Department to issue a draft on the Mint in favor of your office for $[illegible] payable in silver, which when presented will be paid in silver [illegible].

U. S. Assay Office,
New York, Nov. 11, 1854.

Sir,

I send enclosed a report of the business of this office for the week ending this day.

Very respectfully
your obt. servt.
Sam'l. Butterworth
Supt.

Hon. J. R. Snowden,
Director of the Mint,

Nov 11. 9

Sir,

Your letter of the 9th inst. stating that you had notice from the Secretary of the Treasury of his having ordered some silver coin sent to your office, and requiring the same to be sent in certain denominations was received this morning, to have been in a compliance with your request, as the same was sent to your office on the day on which your letter is dated.

If you write in future let us know in time as to the denominations of coin desired, we will with great pleasure comply with your request.

I am, very Respectfully
[illegible] Snowden
Treasr

Thomas W. [illegible], Esq.
Asst. Treasurer U.S.
Boston.

Nov. 11th 4

Sir

By the request of the Secy of the Treasury, I have ordered the construction of a large balance for your office. It will be completed in a few days. As it requires considerable skill to put up such balances, my present object in writing to you is to inquire whether you can in your city, obtain the services of a person accustomed to such a duty or one who would be competent to do it. In order the better to guard against any injury by Transportation, it will, of course, be taken apart and separately packed, hence the necessity of having a competent mechanic to put it up and arrange it for use. If necessary, I can send a proper person from this city, but I suppose this expense may be avoided.

The balance I will send you will be

a beautiful and accurate one, calculated to weigh from 2500 to 3000 lbs, or any less amount.

I intend to send it by canal and Steamboat; that mode of transportation is better for an article of so much delicacy of manufacture.

I am, very respectfully,

Director

Isaac N. Sturgeon, Esq.
Asst. Treasurer, U.S.
St. Louis,
Mo.

P.S. When advertising to the Estimates of this Mint, for the next fiscal year, I should have explained that the appropriation for Salaries is greater than that asked for herein, in consequence of the increase in the Salaries of the Clerks of the Mint authorized by the last general appropriation bill and since fixed by the Secretary U.S. of the date estimates for.

November 11th [illegible]

Sir,

The Superintendent of the Assay office informs me that it will be convenient for that office to be supplied with say $10.000 in Silver [illegible] or the depositors of Silver who have [illegible] that coin. I have endeavored as much as possible to avoid the [illegible] of the Coin, as it is no longer one of circulation, but an Exportation, under the existing laws [illegible] a right to ask for it. I have to propose that you will cause a Bank draft to be issued in favor of the Treasurer of the Assay office on the Treasurer of the Mint for the above sum ($10.000) in Silver, which he will cause to be paid in Silver dollars.

I have the honor to be
with great respect,
Your obt. servant,
James Ross Snowden
Director.

Hon. Howell Cobb
Secy. of the Treasury
Washington City.

Nov 20, 74.

Sir,

In compliance with the Act of March 3, 1873, I present herewith a quarterly Statement of the Expenditures of the Branch Mint San Francisco for the 3d Qr 1874.

The Statements of the Expenses of that Br of the Mint for the 1st & 2nd Qr of the Year not having been properly prepared, have been retained & the Supt. has been instructed to furnish corrected Statements for which as soon as received will be transmitted to you.

In transmitting the enclosed Statement the Superintendent states that it does not include the Amount paid by the Assayer.

I have the honor to be
very great respect
Your faithful Servt.
[illegible]
Director.

Hon. James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Nov 10th 9.

Sir,

Your letter of the 6th inst. enclosing a draft for $1000 has been received and the amount remitted to you per Express in the denomination of coin specified in your letter.

I am, very Respectfully,

James Pope [illegible]

Cashier.

Geo. C. Northrup Esq

Cash. Racine [illegible] Bank

Racine Co.

Wis.

March 18th 980.00
June 26 200.00

Treasury Department,
First Auditor's Office,
Nov 11. 1854.

Sir

I will thank you to inform me whether any payments were made by you to Isaiah Bird, on account of articles furnished by him for the Assay Office at New York, and if so, the amounts and dates of such payments.

Very respectfully, &c.

J. L. Smith
First Auditor

James R. Snowden Esq
Director of the U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

November 13th 4.

Sir,

Your letter of the 11th inst has been received. In reply, I have to state that two payments were made by me to Isaiah Bird on account of the Assay office, New York, of the following dates & amounts. viz March 18th 1854, $950. June 26th $200 (on a/c) making $1150, in all.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect
Your obedient servant,
James Ross Snowden
Director.

T. L. Smith, Esq.
First Auditor
Treasury Department.
Washington City.

Nov. 11. 4

My dear Sir

I have read with surprise, and I may say some indignation, that part of a recent article in the Evening Post of your City entitled "An hour at the Navy Office" which mentions my name in connexion with that office.

As you have full knowledge of my anxious and successful efforts to carry into the laws establishing the Navy Office and put it into successful operation - and to furnish you with a large amount of public dues to enable you to make your first payments, I have to ask you to state, in such form as you may think proper, to the Editor of that paper that he has misunderstood my action on this subject.

I feel great confidence that

You will take pleasure in having this correction made as an act of justice to me personally and officially.

I am with great respect
Your friend and Ob. Servt,

James Ross Snowden

Sam. H. Butterworth Esq.
Supt. Assay office
New York.

Nov. 29th 4

Sir,

I have your favor of yesterday respecting the proposed changes in your office which I have transmitted to the Department. Also your communication in regard to the transmission of fine bars instead of unparted bullion. As soon as I hear from Washington on either of these points I will write to you.

The enclosed bill of Messrs. N. Patterson & Co. ought to be paid. Will you please attend to it. I would be glad also if our Treasurer were re-imbursed the amt. paid for wages &c the bills of which I believe have been forwarded to you.

I will send tomorrow the bills left here by Mr. Denning ~~with~~ receipted, and

Very Respectfully
Your obt. servant,
James Ross Snowden
Director

Saml. F. Butterworth Esq.
Supt. Assay Office
New York

To. Oct. 31.

1.599.380,12

Amt of Deposits Payable in Bars

1.517.203.92

4 Nov 45;960 00

11th Nov ~~9.000.00~~ 830.000.00

19 25 209.812,00

2,602.975.92

Payable Coin 1.000,000

289.000

9120

99,850,57

$1,398,970,57

Nov. 10th 4

Sir,

I have suspended a bond to be signed by the persons Concerned in the "Adams & Co. Contract", and in Consequence of the temporary absence of Mr. Sandford, who represents the House here, the arrangements have not been completed.

I write this line to account for the delay and to state that on his return to the City the matter will be attended to.

I have the honor to be
with great respect,
Your faithful Servant.

Saml. Ruff Snowden
Director.

Hon. James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury
Washington City.

Received of the Treasurer of the U.S. Assay Office, New York, Two boxes of gold bullion, and Two boxes of Silver bullion, valued at One Hundred Thousand One hundred & Seventy seven 26/100 dollars, which we agree to deliver to the Treasurer of the U.S. Mint, Philadelphia, at [illegible] cts per $1000. we insuring against loss.

Gold	$ 94.648.74
Silver	5.528.52
	100.177.26

U.S. Assay Office
New York Nov 9. 1854

The Adams Express Company
by [illegible] Agt

Boston Nov. 10. 1854

Dear Sir.

I send herewith the page of the American Almanac for 1854, containing the names of the Principal Officers of Mint & Branches, the Coinage &c: Will you be kind enough to have the list corrected & returned to me for publication in the Volume for 1855? And will you also send me a copy of your Report for the year 1853, from which I can get the Deposits & Coinage for that year? I should also be much obliged to you for the amount of the Coinage from Jan. 1854 to 30 Sept. 1854. as in the foot note last year. I have on the reverse page left in a similar note, blanks for the figures.

Robert Patterson Esq. last year & in former years, was kind enough

J. R. Snowden Esq
Director U.S. Mint. Phila

to furnish this informa-
tion for the Almanac. & perhaps,
he may be at liberty to do
the same for me this year.
With many thanks for your
courtesy of last year
I am.
Yours Obt Sat
Geo. P. Sanger
Ed. Am. Almanac.

I would add. that the
Printer is hurrying me, & that
it would confer an additional
favor upon me, to have the sheet
& document sent me at an early
day.

Nov. 13th 4

Dear Sir,

In compliance with the request contained in your letter of the 8th inst. I send you two copies of my report to the President of the U.S. on the operations of the Mint and branches for the year 1853, together with my report on the value of certain foreign coin. I also have prepared, and herewith enclose, a statement showing the amt. ~~[illegible]~~ coinage of the Mint and branches, from Jan. 1. 1854 to Sept. 30. 1854.

I am, very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servant,
James Ross Snowden
Director.

Geo. P. Sanger Esq
Ed. American Almanac
~~Boston~~

Summary of the Coinage executed at the
Mint of the United States and its Branches from Jan 1st 1850 to Jan 1st 1854

Gold.

	Pieces	Value
Double Eagles	750813	$15,016,260
Eagles	177,574	1,775,740
½ Eagles	514,697	2,573,485
Three Dollars	129,998	389,994
¼ Eagles	667,759	1,669,397.50
Dollars	1,002,303	1,002,303
Gold Bars		9,476,540.62
Unparted Bars		1,086,479
Total	3,243,144.	$33,990,205.12

Silver,

Dollars	33,140	33,140
½ Dollars	6,768,000	3,384,000
¼ "	11,796,000	2,949,000
Dimes	3,530,000	353,000
½ Dimes	5,800,000	290,000
Trimes	400,000	12,000
Total	28,627,140	$7,051,140
Copper Cents	3,777,589	37,775.89
Total Coinage	35,647,873	$41,079,121.01

From January 1. 1854 to September 30. 1854.

double eagles; eagles; half-eagles;
quarter eagles; gold dollars, and in fine bars $
were coined. The total gold coinage in value for the nine months was $
; silver coinage $; copper $. The
whole number of pieces coined in the nine months was . Val-
ue, $

any three dollar gold pieces?

From C. P. Daugen
Ed Am Almanac
Boston

Information
Wanted
Nov. 13, 1854

New York Assay Office
S. F. Butterworth. Superintendent

Officers of the Mint at Philadelphia.

	Salary.		Salary.
J. R. Snowden, *Director*,	$ 3,500	James C. Booth, *Melter and Refiner*,	$ 2,000
Daniel Sturgeon, *Treasurer*,	2,000		
Franklin Peale, *Chief Coiner*,	2,000	Jas. B. Longacre, *Engraver*,	2,000
Jacob R. Eckfeldt, *Assayer*,	2,000	W. E. Dubois, *Assist. Assayer*,	1,500

Officers of the Branch at New Orleans, La.

Charles Bienvenu, *Superint.*,	$ 2,500	A. J. Guivot, *Coiner*,	$ 2,000
Howard Millspaugh, *Assayer*,	2,000	James Brewer, *Treasurer*,	4,000
M. F. Bonzano, *Melter & Refiner*,	2,000		

Officers of the Branch at Dahlonega, Ga.

J. M. Patton, *Sup. and Treas.*,	$ 2,000	John D. Field, Jr., *Coiner*,	$ 1,500
Isaac L. Todd, *Assayer*,	1,500		

Officers of the Branch at Charlotte, N. C.

G. W. Caldwell, *Sup. & Treas.*,	$ 2,000	Emmor Graham, *Coiner*,	$ 1,500
John H. Gibbon, *Assayer*,	1,500		

Officers of the Branch at San Francisco.

L. A. Birdsall, *Superintendent*,	$ 4,500	J. Hewston, *Melter & Refiner*,	$ 3,500

1. *Statement of the Deposits for Coinage, at the Mint of the United States and its Branches, in the Year* 1852.

GOLD.		
Coins of the United States, old standard,	$ 13,323	
Foreign Coins,	978,806	
United States Bullion,	54,506,963	
Foreign Bullion,	218,396	
Total of Gold,		$ 55,717,488
SILVER.		
United States Bullion,	$ 404,494	
Foreign Bullion,	132,086	
Foreign Coins,	534,411	
Total of Silver,		1,070,991
Total of Gold and Silver,		$ 56,788,479

2. *Statement of the Coinage of the Mint of the United States and its Branches in the Year* 1852.

Denominations.	Pieces.	Value.	Denominations.	Pieces.	Value.
GOLD.			SILVER.		
Double Eagles,	2,243,026	$ 44,860,520	Dollars,	1,000	1,000
Eagles,	281,106	2,811,060	Half-Dollars,	221,130	110,565
Half-Eagles,	737,927	3,689,635	Quarter-Dollars,	273,060	68,265
Quarter-Eagles,	1,313,331	3,283,327.50	Dimes,	1,965,500	196,550
Dollars,	2,901,145	2,901,145	Half-Dimes,	18,663,500	933,175
Total Gold,	6,776,735	$ 56,546,187.50	Total,	21,124,190	1,309,555
COPPER.					
Cents,	5,063,094	50,630.94			
Gold and Copper Coins,	11,839,829	$ 56,596,818.44	Total Coinage,	32,964,019	56,206,373.44

From Jan. 1, 1853, to Sept. 30, 1853, ~~2,233,995~~ double eagles, ~~1,626,980~~ eagles, ~~1,924,675~~ half-eagles, ~~3,700,140~~ quarter eagles, ~~2,367,014~~ gold dollars, and in fine bars, $ ~~11,780,670.56~~, were coined. The total gold coinage in value for the 9 months was $ ~~46,110,102.56~~; silver $ ~~2,105,445~~; copper $ ~~69,807.99~~. The whole number of pieces coined in the nine months was ~~46,325,864~~. Value, $ ~~59,859,251.55~~.

See over

United States Assay Office.
New York, Nov. 10, 1854.

Sir,

I send enclosed a corrected report of the business of this Office for the month of October, and also a report from Nov. 1 to 4th inclusive; — both of which have been prepared conformably with your suggestions of the 1st inst. If the form of these reports meets your approval, I will adopt it in my future weekly & monthly returns.

The weekly reports, made up on Saturday, can only be approximately correct. The monthly report, I propose to render after the calculations shall have been completed, so that they may exhibit the amounts correctly.

Very respectfully,
Your obt. Servt.
Sam'l. Butterworth
Supt.

Hon. J. R. Snowden,
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia.

Treasury Department
November 10th 1854:

Sir:

Your letter of the 8th instant is received, and in reply I have to state that the temporary employment of Mr. O. De Forest to Calculate and Stamp Bars at the Assay Office in New York, at a Salary of $4 per day, Sundays excluded, is hereby authorized.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Svt.
James Guthrie
Secretary of the Treasury.

J. R. Snowden Esq
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia
Pa.

Sir,

November 9. 4.

In November last I sent Mr James McFunk to California to be engaged as a workman in the Branch Mint there under a stipulation that his necessary expenses thither from Charleston should be paid and that he should receive a per diem allowance of $3, from the time of his arrival there until his actual employment at the Branch Mint. Mr Funk arrived there on the 16th December and commenced work at the Mint on the 25th January following. He was 38 days awaiting work and is therefore entitled to receive the sum of $93. The Superintendent states that this sum was not paid him, in consequence of his name not having been included in the list of Workmen sent out in December last. Mr Funk has lately returned from California and has called on me for the above amount, to which he is entitled by the terms of our agreement. As it will be inconvenient and cause some delay for the Superintendent to transmit to Mr Funk the amount due, it is desirable that the same should be paid here, and I write thereto you to cause a draft to be issued in my favor for the above amount ($93) for that purpose.

I have the honor to be, with great respect

Your faithful Servant,

James Ross Snowden
Director.

Hon. James Guthrie
Sec. of the Treasury

3250
6500
1750
145-00

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, November 10th 1854.

Copy

Sir,

I enclose a bill of Mr Schively for porcelain ~~Pots~~ which is properly payable at your Office.

The Treasurer of the Mint has received the bullion sent over by the Treasurer of your Office in part payment of the transfer draft for $500,000.

I am, very Respectfully,

(Signed) James Ross Snowden

Director.

Sam. F. Butterworth, Esq.,
Supt. Assay Office,
New York.

Office Assistant Treasurer
U.S. Boston Nov 9. 1854

J. K. Snowden Esq

I have just
rec'd notice from the Sec'y of the
Treasury that he has ordered some
Silver Coin sent here. He found
what we had before inconveniently
selected for our use. Will you
please send when you forward to
us Thirty five Thousand Dollars in
halves & quarters each and twenty
Thousand in dimes & the balance
in half dimes.

Yes truly
Thamar W. Beard

U. S. Assay Office, Treasurer's Department.

New York, November 9 1854

To

I have this day forwarded by Adams & Co express, per instructions received from the Secretary of the Treasury Five bars of Gold bullion, valued at $ [illegible].74 and Five bars of Silver bullion, valued at $ 5.512.52 per their receipt and my Statement rendered

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt

Treasurer of U.S. Mint
Philad.a Penn.a

John J. Cisco
Treasurer

U.S. MINT GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE 1854/DECEMBER

Examiner should advise branch interest on demand or time loans should be collected at least every six months; and that mere payment of interest is not considered a renewal of the formal extension agreement is signed by all parties or the laws of the State provide otherwise. A new note, if practicable, at each maturity date is preferable.

* Include in "bad debts" only those bonds which have reached actual maturity dates, and otherwise come within the definition of a statutory bad debt.

SLOW AND DOUBTFUL PAPER AND LOSSES ON LOANS

List here all paper, including overdue paper, called for by this schedule. State briefly in each case the reason for the classification, and such further comment as may be deemed appropriate. Give maturity dates of "bad debts" and other overdue paper subject to classification.

Maker, indorser, and security	Amount	Overdue			Slow	Doubtful	L
		Due date	Class "A"	Class "B"			
TOTAL,							

Use Form 1425-R for continuation of list.

December 14, 4

Sir,

For the purpose of providing as far as possible, an effectual check on the "Weigh Clerk" of the Assay Office at New York, the Superintendent has employed Mr. B.J. Osborne as Foreman of Deposits at a compensation of $3.50 per day. As the employment of a suitable person in this capacity is required by the General regulations lately prescribed with your approval for the government of that Office, and as Mr. Osborne is represented to be a competent and reliable person, I have to ask your approval of his employment as above.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your faithful Servant,
James Pollock
Director

Hon. James Guthrie,
Sec. of the Treasury,
Washington City,

Treasury Department
Dec. 14. 1838.

Sir,

It is appears, that there is the sum of $10.557.37 in your hands - being the bal. of the profits of the Coining account - I will thank you to deposit the amount in the Mechanicsburg Bank to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States on special account.

I remain very Respy
Your Obd. Sert
Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury

The Treasurer of the Mint
Philada.

From—

Secretary of Treasury.

Dec. 14. 1838.

Requesting the Treas. of the Mint to deposit $10.551.37 to the credit of the T. U.S. being balance of profit on copper coinage, ~~on that~~ prior to new law 18 Jany 1837

Enclosed is a Certificate from the Moyamensing Bk that the above amount has been deposited as directed.

Secretary of the Treasury

December 14 1838

A duplicate of the certificate of special deposits referred to by the Secretary enclosed

Philada Dec: 14 - 1854

Dr Sir

We agree severally to furnish the United States Mint with Parting acid as proposed in your favor of yesterday, presuming that the Sulphuric acid will be equally divided between us two as heretofore — The contract to commence 1st January of next ~~this~~ year & terminate on first of July 1854, i.e. for six months

Very respectfully

Nichols Harris & Co

Powers & Weightman

J. Ross Snowden Esq }
Director }

Extract from the letter of

Tenders

From A. Lewis & Co.
" Powers & Weightman

Contracts for supply of acids
for the Mint. from Jan 1st 1854
for six months

Rec'd Dec 16th 1853

Gentlemen

We accept Contract to
supply the Nitric acid for
Mint as per proposals.

Very respectfully
Yours &c
Nichols Lewis & Co

J. R. Snowden Esq
Director U. S. Mint

Phila Dec 14 — 1853

Mint of the United States.

Philadelphia, December 13th. 1854.

Sir.

In compliance with the request contained in your lett. of the 11th inst: I have caused to be struck, and herewith forward, one hundred specimens of the bronze cent therein referred to; and have the honor now to recapitulate the various points of information on that subject, which have heretofore been communicated to the Department. In so doing, it will perhaps best subserve the wishes of the Department, and of Committees in Congress, if I should present the project of a Law, in several sections, with explanatory remarks appended to each section.

An Act relating to the Coinage of cents:

Sect. 1. Be it enacted, &c: that from and after the passage this Act the standard weight of the cents coined at the Mint of the United States shall be ninety six grains, or two-tenths of one ounce Troy, with no greater deviation than four grains in a single piece; and that the coinage of half-cents shall cease.

Remarks: The present weight of the cent is 168 grains; at the current price of copper, the government is barely saved from loss by the coinage, and is every day liable to become an actual loser. In the experience of every country has settled this point, that the low denominations of coin are not made acceptable on account of the market value, but on account of the government Stamp, and the

venience of having such pieces for small transactions. For the proposed reduction of the weight of the cent, we have abundant precedents. In 1792, the legal weight was 264 grains; early in 1793, it was reduced to 208 grains; in 1796, in pursuance of legal authority, President Washington issued a proclamation reducing the cent to 168 grains, the present legal standard. In France at this day, the piece of ten centimes, say two cents of our money, weighs less than our cents, yet it passes freely. Dealers all over the country will feel obliged for such an unloading of copper as the change from 168 to 96 grains would produce. The allowance of four grains for deviation is a customary "remedy of the Mint," and is necessary for practical operations. The omission of the half cents scarcely needs a remark. It is rejected. People will not take the trouble to make a cent with two pieces of money.

Sect. 2. Be it further enacted, that the said cent shall be composed of copper with any admixture not exceeding five per cent in weight, of metals which may render it more suitable for the purposes of coin. And the devices upon said cents shall express the country, denomination and date of coinage.

Remarks. In regard to the various experiments recently made here, as to the desirableness of introducing a german-silver cent, I presume it will not be necessary here to recapitulate the correspondence which is already in the possession of the departments, and which I presume will be laid before the Committee in Congress, to whom it is your desire to refer this subject. A decided preference for the copper coin, if its weight can be reduced to 96 grains, is the conclusion towards which my mind is brought after a careful consideration of the advantages

and objections on both sides. The allowance of [illegible] per cent for the ad-
mixture of other metals — tin and zinc being intended — is to make
an alloy which will improve the color and reduce the liability to cor-
rosion and foulness. It is the same [illegible] the French are
using for coinage under the name of [illegible]; but I have avoided
that term as being vaguely applied among us to very different
metalic mixtures and colorings.

Sect. 3. Be it further enacted that it shall be at the discretion of the
Director of the Mint, with the concurrence of the Secretary of the Treasury
to cause the planchets for the cent coinage to be prepared at a private
manufactory, as hitherto prescribed by law [illegible] directly under
the supervision of the Director or such officer of the Mint as he may
designate. And the profits arising from the [illegible] and distribution
of said coinage, after deducting expenses of transportation as provided
for in the 20th section of the Act of [illegible] relative to the Mint, shall
be paid from time to time into the Treasury [illegible] the United States.

Remarks. It seems quite obvious that the Mint ought not to be compelled
as it now is by law, to procure its supply of planchets for coinage from a pri-
vate or [illegible] manufactory [illegible] If the planchets are to be
[illegible] a definite price [illegible] This section will only confer the
choice [illegible] the Director, with the approbation of the Secretary of the
Treasury [illegible] this business done under his own direction. It is
[illegible] any fault with the present manufacture of
planchets, which in fact is quite satisfactory.

Sect. 4. Be it further enacted that it shall be at the discretion
of the Director of the Mint, with the concurrence of the Secretary of the